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Saipan Tribune

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OPINION METER

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INSIDE

BUSINESS



Microsoft Corp.'s Bill Gates remains America's richest man, according

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ASIA



The Philippine Justice Department files corruption complaints against lawmakers.

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CPA advised to stand firm in decision on Freedom Air. PAGE 3
DPW halts DPS from building repair for lack of permit. PAGE 5

Arrivals exceed 400,000 visitors

Total visitor arrivals to the Northern Mariana Islands have reached 400,000 passengers so far this year, exceeding arrival levels last seen in 2006 when Japan Airlines was flying to the CNMI from the Japan market. In addition, according to the Marianas Visitors Authority, arrivals from China have now reached 102,810 person for the year while arrivals from Russia have reached 10,476 persons, both of which are record annual totals.

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» **Highest annual total since 2006**
» **August visitor arrivals up 12 percent**

Lodestar and multipliers: Huh?

» **Dotts: Trust the judge, no need to panic and overreact**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER



The over \$40 million attorneys' fees and costs that Betty Johnson's four lawyers are billing the CNMI government—prompting howls of protest across the community—bal-



Dotts

looned to stratospheric heights due to the application of what these lawyers call the lodestar method and multiplier of 15.

Yet the issue of lodestar and multi-million attorneys' fees and costs awarded to lawyers as a result of a class action are not new to the CNMI. The

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CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK

Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider and Department of Public Safety Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero join DPS personnel in a group photo in front of the governor's office building on Capital Hill yesterday after the lieutenant governor signed a proclamation declaring Sept. 15 to 21 Child Passenger Safety Week and Sept. 21 National Seat Check Saturday. U.S. states and territories such as the CNMI require the use of car seats for children traveling in motor vehicles to save lives and prevent injuries.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

AFTER 14 YEARS OF AIDING ALIEN WORKERS IN CNMI

Interior: No need for labor ombudsman's office

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Acting U.S. assistant interior secretary for insular areas Eileen Sobock told U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee chair Ron Wyden (D-Oregon) that since the passage of a law placing CNMI im-

migration under federal control, "it has been assumed" that the need for the U.S. Labor Ombudsman's Office "would not be permanent."

Sobock's letter seals the fate of the ombudsman's office, which is set to close at the end of fiscal year 2013 on Sept. 30.

This, despite calls to keep the om-

budsman's office open, at least until the end of the transitional program for alien workers in the CNMI.

For 14 years, the ombudsman's office has aided thousands of foreign workers in the CNMI who were victims of labor abuses, human trafficking, sex trafficking and illegal recruit-

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Local

Docomo to unveil bundle services

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Docomo Pacific will be unveiling 10 bundle services that would integrate the company's bread-and-butter telecommunications services and MCV Broadband's cable TV services before the end of October.

James Nelson, Docomo Pacific's general manager, announced this as one of the speakers of yesterday's Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

He said the bundle service proposal for Saipan is now going through the approval process.

Initially the company will offer what it calls Double Play and Triple Play bundle services. The former will have four plans for wireless and basic cable TV services while the latter has six plans with wireless, basic cable TV, and Internet services.

"These bundle plans will result in savings to the consumer of 10 to 25 percent. We expect to launch within the next two weeks," said Nelson.

He also told Rotary members that Docomo's renovation of the second floor office space that

used to house the Department of Public Works is almost 95 percent complete.

After network access is finished this week, Docomo offices will finally move to the second floor and the renovation of the first floor of the building along Middle Road in Gualo Rai will then commence. He expects the renovation of the first floor to be done by Oct. 22.

Docomo is also planning to open new locations at the Hafa Ada Supermarket and Joeten Supermarket to better serve its customers.

As for real-time cable TV programming, he reiterated what he told the Saipan Chamber of Commerce a couple of months back that the prohibitive cost of undersea fiber optics continues to be a hindrance in making it a reality.

"At this time, it is not realistic to expect 'real-time' TV programming until the high cost of undersea fiber optics are addressed."

He cited a January 2013 report by One Global Economy on the digital blueprint of the CNMI, which pointed out that the cables currently owned and operated by IT&E that link the

CNMI to Guam are ample for the territory's bandwidth needs.

"However, the issue remains that when all middle-mile connection points are owned and operated by a single entity, it creates a business chokepoint... the owner of the middle-mile connection has a monopoly over the market, and in order to gain a competitive advantage in last-mile delivery, it can charge downstream Internet service providers uncompetitive rates... It is the opinion of One Global Economy that this type of middle-mile monopoly may have led to market inefficiencies in CNMI," Nelson quoted the report.

Nelson said the One Global Economy report recommended that the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission request local Internet service providers, or ISPs, to disclose their total middle-mile capacity; the capacity they use for their own customers; the capacity they lease out to other companies; the price they charge for a leased line (i.e. DS3), and their cost of operating leased lines.

"We believe that the newly appointed members of the CPUC will take some action before the end of this year to remedy this situation," he said.



Nelson

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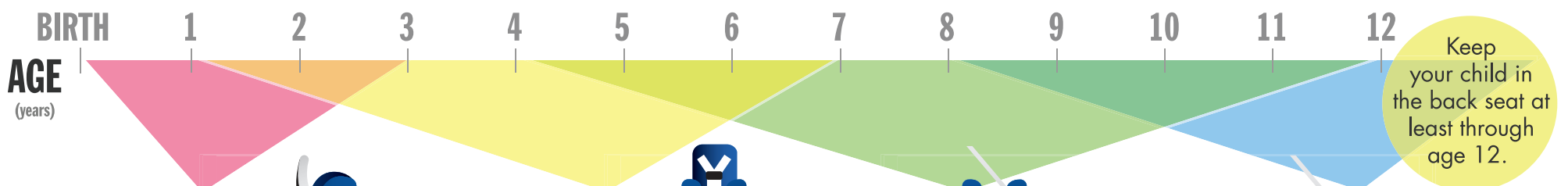
NATIONAL/CNMI CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK

SEPTEMBER 15 - 21, 2013



Car Seat Recommendations for Children

- Select a car seat based on your child's age and size, and choose a seat that fits in your vehicle and use it every time.
- Always refer to your specific car seat manufacturer's instructions; read the vehicle owner's manual on how to install the car seat using the seat belt or LATCH system; and check height and weight limits.
- To maximize safety, keep your child in the car seat for as long as possible, as long as the child fits within the manufacturer's height and weight requirements.
- Keep your child in the back seat at least through age 12.



REAR-FACING CAR SEAT

Your child under age 1 should always ride in a rear-facing car seat. There are different types of rear-facing car seats: Infant-only seats can only be used rear-facing. Convertible and 3-in-1 car seats typically have higher height and weight limits for the rear-facing position, allowing you to keep your child rear-facing for a longer period of time.

FORWARD-FACING CAR SEAT

Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible. It's the best way to keep him or her safe. Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness.

BOOSTER SEAT

Keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the forward-facing car seat with a harness, it's time to travel in a booster seat, but still in the back seat.

SEATBELT

Keep your child in a booster seat until he or she is big enough to fit in a seat belt properly. For a seat belt to fit properly the lap belt must lie snugly across the upper thighs, not the stomach. The shoulder belt should lie snug across the shoulder and chest and not cross the neck or face. Remember: your child should still ride in the back seat because it's safer there.

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A **SEAT BELT** should lie across the upper thighs and be snug across the shoulder and chest to restrain the child safely in a crash. It should not rest on the stomach area or across the neck.



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CPA advised to stand firm in decision on Freedom Air

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The fate of Freedom Air—whether or not it will be allowed to continue operating inside Commonwealth Ports Authority premises beyond Sept. 19—will

be tackled in today's special CPA board meeting.

Saipan Tribune sources disclosed that, in anticipation of the local carrier appealing once more for reconsideration, both the management and the board were advised by its legal depart-

ment to stand firm on its decision to evict Freedom Air from all CPA premises if it fails to pay its long overdue \$1.23 million arrears.

As of Tuesday, the airline company has not paid a cent for this obligation.

The CPA board is composed of seven members: board chair Jose Lifofoi, vice chair Benigno Sablan, Fermin Sakisat, Thomas Kiyu Villagomez, Barrie Toves, Frances Mafnas, and Michael San Nicolas.

Saipan Tribune also learned that CPA has been subsidizing Freedom Air for some years now in paying for its passenger facility charges, a requirement by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration.

Based on FAA regulations, an airline is required to remit the PFCs it collects from passengers to the federal agency—through CPA—every first

week of each month. Freedom Air has not been doing this, resulting in an unpaid obligation of \$1.23 million.

Saipan Tribune learned that, since FAA monitors the PFC charges being collected and CPA regularly remits PFC charges to the federal agency, the ports authority has in effect been subsidizing the airline company.

It was learned that the board was also advised that the CPA board may cancel the eviction notice against Freedom Air only if the airline company become current on its obligation and comply with all CPA

requirements.

Saipan Tribune also learned that holding off or canceling the eviction notice issued to Freedom Air may potentially expose CPA to an adverse FAA ruling.

Sources privy to the issue disclosed that the federal agency has started receiving complaints from other carriers about the alleged favored treatment given to Freedom Air for not paying its passenger facility charges.

Freedom Air has operations both in the CNMI and in Guam.

In a June board meeting, Freedom Air owner and president Joaquin Flores claimed that the decline in the number of local travelers in the CNMI and the down economy are among the factors that has hampered the ability of his company to fulfill all its obligations on time.

Freedom Air just recently reinstated the liability insurance for all its 10 aircraft.

Lt. governor attends Asia-Pacific summit in Taiwan

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider attended last week's 2013 Asia Pacific Cities Summit in Taiwan, hoping that the CNMI will get a bigger bite of the Taiwanese travel market and that investors from that country will see business potentials in the Commonwealth.

The Sept. 9 to

11 summit in Kaohsiung, Taiwan brought together representatives from 102 cities.

"Taiwan is aware of the CNMI and we would like for them to continue to encourage their people to come to the CNMI as tourists or investors. Overall, it was a very fruitful visit. The partnership we have forged with them will go a long way," Hofschneider told *Saipan Tribune* at the signing of a proclamation yesterday morning on Capital Hill.

The Taiwanese government invited both Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Hofschneider to the three-day summit.

The governor asked Hofschneider to represent the CNMI. Hofschneider's trip was paid for by the CNMI government, the lieutenant governor added.

Hofschneider said Guam's Lt. Gov. Ray Tenorio was also at the summit, which has become one of the most significant forums on urban development in the region since 1996.

The 2013 summit focused on the challenges facing city management and possible responses to these challenges.

» Signs Child Passenger Safety Week proclamation

Child Passenger Safety Week

In other news, Hofschneider signed a proclamation yesterday declaring Sept. 15 to 21 Child Passenger Safety Week.

The proclamation signing was attended by Department of Public Safety Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero, DPS personnel, Cabinet members and advocates.

Hofschneider also proclaimed Sept. 21 National Seat

Check Saturday.

"I urge everyone to help reduce injuries and the tragic loss of life by buckling up themselves and their children—every trip, every time," Hofschneider said.

All 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia and territories require the use of car seats for children traveling in motor vehicles to save lives and prevent injuries.

DPS cites research that shows car seats reduce the risk of fatal injury for infants by 71 percent and by 54 percent for toddlers in cars, and by 58 percent and 59 percent for infants and toddlers in SUVs, pickups, and vans.

DPS said it is committed to working closely with its partners and safety advocates to help make the kind of choices that will help children alive and safe.

The goal is to educate parents and caregivers about best practices when traveling with children.

During Child Passenger Safety Week, free car seat inspection events will be held across the country.



LUGGAGE SCANNER

MedPharm personnel install a Rapiscan 622XR luggage scanner at the main entrance of the Judicial Building in Susupe yesterday. The Judiciary purchased the new scanner after its first scanner broke down in 2010.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

'IRS claim to recover \$1.2M FICA barred by statute of limitations'

The defunct Concorde Garment Manufacturing Corp. has insisted that the U.S. government's counterclaim for the recovery of \$1.2 million in Federal Insurance Contributions Act taxes that the Internal Revenue Service refunded in 2009 is barred by the statute of limitations.

Attorney Steven P. Pixley,

counsel for Concorde Garment, said that when the U.S. makes a tax refund to a taxpayer, the U.S. may bring a civil action to recover the refund. Generally, he said, the U.S. must initiate a suit under section 740(b) within two years after the refund was made.

"Here, Concorde agrees that

it received the refund on or about Dec. 28, 2009," he said.

However, he said, the U.S. filed its counterclaim on Dec. 17, 2011.

The hearing on the motion for entry of judgment will be on Oct. 17, 2013 at 10am in the U.S. District Court for the NMI. (Ferdie de la Torre)

Lujan joins Roberto's defense

Guam lawyer David J. Lujan is joining attorney Joaquin DLG. Torres for the defense of former acting CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife director Raymond Borja Roberto, who was indicted on Friday over allegations he paid for sex with three female minors.

Lujan informed the U.S. District Court for the NMI yesterday that he will be co-counsel with Torres on behalf of the 40-year-old Roberto.

Lujan requested the court to also forward to him all orders, pleadings, and documents regarding the case.

The Guam lawyer is known for representing defendants in high-profile criminal cases in

the CNMI.

The indictment charged Roberto with one count of coercion and enticement of a minor. He pleaded not guilty.

The jury trial will be on Nov. 18, 2013.

Federal Bureau of Investigation agents arrested Roberto on Aug. 31 on charges related to the case against firefighter Richard S. Benavente and suspected pimp Annette N. Basa. (Ferdie de la Torre)

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Covenant PARTY
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The Covenant Party of the Northern Mariana Islands is inviting all party members and interested individuals for a general membership meeting on Wednesday, September 18, 2013, at the Garapan Central Park. The meeting will commence at 6:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited.

Thank You
Si Gregorio M. Camacho, Chairman

Paid for by the Covenant Party Treasurer Emma Villagomez.

INTERIOR

From Page 1

ment, among other things.

Sobeck said once the Consolidated Natural Resources Act—the federalization law—was passed, “it was anticipated that many of the immigration and labor abuses would abate, especially as the last garment factory closed in early 2009, sharply curtailing demand for foreign workers in CNMI.”

She said the number of alien workers in the CNMI has dropped from over 40,000 to some 16,000.

“Therefore, since the passage of the CNRA, it has been assumed that need for the Office would not be permanent,” Sobeck told Wyden.

Sobeck’s letter was dated Aug. 29, a response to Wyden’s

May 31 letter addressed to Interior Secretary Sally Jewell. She said the Interior secretary asked her to respond on her behalf.

Bonifacio Sagana, president of Dekada Movement, said last night that federalization didn’t end the problems concerning labor and immigration abuses.

“A lot of things haven’t changed since [Jack] Abramoff time, many of the workers haven’t received awarded labor claims,” he added.

The current labor ombudsman in the CNMI is Pamela Brown.

‘Dramatic shift’

Prior to the CNRA’s enactment, the Federal Labor Ombudsman’s Office was necessary to assist victims of egregious labor and trafficking violations, Sobeck said.

It has now been nearly five

years since November 2009 when the federal government, through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, has taken over immigration responsibilities in the CNMI.

“In the past several years, the work of the Ombudsman’s office has shifted dramatically from working on serious labor and trafficking violations to assisting individual alien workers with more routine immigration and labor issues,” Sobeck reiterated.

She said the number of new cases opened in 2012 was approximately half the number of those opened in 2008.

In 2008, she said nearly 80 percent of the cases that the ombudsman’s office referred concerned labor violations, while in 2012, 80 percent of the cases referred related to immigration-related matters, Sobeck said.

‘Major flaw’

Florida-based human rights activist and former CNMI teacher Wendy Doromal said the argument that the U.S. takeover of CNMI immigration would solve problems is invalid because of a major flaw—the lack of a provision granting an eventual pathway to citizenship for legal long-term nonresidents.

“As long as nonresident workers are regarded as replaceable and disposable, they will remain deprived of basic rights and they will need the federal ombudsman,” Doromal said.

Doromal added that more startling is the fact that Sobeck “minimizes the current trafficking, abuse labor and immigration problems that nonresidents continue to suffer.”

13 questions

“If percentages are applied the value of the recovery has to be determined and then the attorneys are awarded a percentage of that value,” he said.

Johnson counsels’ computation

Under the settlement agreement, the CNMI government agrees to pay Johnson’s attorneys’ fees and costs, and a \$7,500 service award for bringing the lawsuit against the government and the Fund on behalf of the class members.

Bronster Hoshibata, a Honolulu-based law firm that is one of the counsels for Johnson, stated in its petition that the value of the benefit obtained for the class by the settlement is at least \$591.22 million.

Under a percentage-of-the-fund approach, 5 percent of this amount is \$29.56 million, according to attorney Robert M. Hatch of the Bronster Hoshibata law firm.

Hatch said if the court were to determine that Bronster’s contribution to the benefit provided to the class were only half of this already very low percentage, it would still be \$14.78 million.

Hatch said that given the enormous risk undertaken in this case and the excellent results for the class, their law firm believes that a multiplier of 15 is very reasonable and that under the lodestar analysis, this yields “a reasonable fee” for their firm of \$15.09 million.

Aside from Bronster Hoshibata, the other counsels for Johnson—Timothy Lord, Bruce

Sobeck answered 13 questions posed by Wyden related to the Interior’s plans to close the ombudsman’s office and plans for transitioning its operations to other local and federal agencies.

She told Wyden that Interior expects that immigration, law enforcement, and labor grievances by aliens within the CNMI will be properly handled by relevant federal or local agencies with jurisdiction over the claim.

As for the number of open cases that the ombudsman’s office now has, Sobeck said the office is currently in the process of updating its list.

The office’s review of trafficking cases has shown some 35 open cases, and no new trafficking cases have come into the office since September 2012.

Sobeck said it is important to

note that all cases on the docket have been referred to appropriate federal or local agencies for disposition.

She pointed out that the ombudsman’s office does not handle grievances.

The office intakes complaints and assists aliens in filling out the paperwork that is then submitted to the appropriate local or federal entity for investigation or if appropriate, adjudication, Sobeck said.

Sobeck added that the Interior’s Office of Insular Affairs will fill the vacant CNMI field representative position, who will absorb some of the duties that the ombudsman currently handles.

She said the \$250,000 provided by the closure of the ombudsman’s office will provide much needed resources to insular areas.

LODESTAR

From Page 1

class action against the islands’ garment manufacturers more than a decade ago is a good example.

The issue has caused some panic in the community and some retirees are now talking about opting out of Johnson’s class action global settlement.

To that, veteran lawyer Michael W. Dotts has some calming words. He says there is no need to panic or overreact.

“I would recommend that the retirees and the community trust the judge on the fee issue. The judge knows what is going on,” Dotts told *Saipan Tribune*.

If a multiplier is justified, Dotts said, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood will explain why and, even if a multiplier of 15 is awarded, the judge will not let an award of attorneys’ fees hurt the retirees or the community.

The lodestar method

Lodestar refers to a method adopted for calculating attorneys’ fees where the court multiplies a reasonable hourly rate by a reasonable number of hours expended.

According to Dotts, this method comes up when a party who wins a lawsuit is entitled to recover their attorneys’ fees.

Citing a wage case for unpaid overtime as an example, Dotts said federal law awards the employees their reasonable attorneys’ fees as well as their

unpaid overtime wages.

In an unpaid overtime case, the court determines what is “reasonable attorneys’ fees” by looking at what other attorneys in the same community and performing the same sort of work charge as an hourly rate.

The court also looks at the actual work the attorney performed for the employees and determines if the work was justified.

“Not all work may be justified such as in a situation where the employees lost on some claims. The time the attorneys spent on claims that were lost is generally not counted,” Dotts said.

The total hours determined to be justified, Dotts said, are then multiplied with the community standard hourly rate to determine the “reasonable attorneys’ fees” to award.

In Johnson’s case, Dotts said, if Judge Tydingco-Gatewood uses the lodestar method, she should ask what other attorneys on Saipan and Hawaii charge.

Dotts believes it is fine to consider Hawaii as it seems to have been necessary for Johnson to go to Hawaii to find attorneys willing to represent her.

The lawyer said all the hours the attorneys worked should be reviewed.

Dotts said that most of the work that Johnson’s attorneys performed is probably justified, but the CNMI government should be given a chance to comment on all of it.

“Then the total hours found justified should then be multiplied by the applicable hourly rates. That should be the fee

awarded to Betty Johnson’s attorneys,” he said.

Multiplier issue

Dotts explained that a multiplier can be awarded if the court action took a significantly long period of time, involved a great deal of risk, was novel, prevented the attorneys from taking other work, or resulted in a community’s benefit.

Dotts said the purpose of a multiplier is to both reward the attorneys for their success in the case and to encourage other attorneys to take other such cases.

In Johnson’s request for a multiplier of 15, Dotts said he has never heard of such a multiplier but then he has not read the filings of Johnson’s attorneys.

Dotts does not believe that multipliers are commonly given but when done, they are probably most commonly given in the range of 2 or 3 times the lodestar.

“I am sure that Judge Tydingco-Gatewood will look at what multiplier to award [if any] very carefully,” he said.

Dotts said a judge normally approves a request for attorneys’ fees and costs using the lodestar method in cases where attorneys’ fees are awarded pursuant to a statute or a contract clause.

He said class action cases pretty much always require that the fees of the class attorneys be approved by a court and the lodestar is one method used.

Dotts, however, pointed out that there are other methods and one is a “percentage” approach that is sometimes used in class actions.

continuing difficulty agents have had securing rooms for last-minute Japanese visitors to the NMI this summer as competition for rooms from the South Korea and China markets becomes increasingly intense.

Arrivals from South Korea rose 5 percent in August to 13,389 visitors. Asiana Airlines boosted its Busan-Saipan flights from four times a week to daily service in August, targeting the summer peak season, using an Airbus 320 with 155 seats and bringing in an additional 1,860 seats to the Northern Marianas this summer. In addition, Asiana

operated daily charter flights from Incheon to Saipan from July 15 to Aug. 31 using an Airbus 321 with 177 seats, bringing an additional 8,319 seats into the CNMI, generating continued growth in Korean arrivals this summer.

Meanwhile, arrivals from China jumped 60 percent in August to 10,804 visitors, once again exceeding the 10,000 monthly mark due to an additional flight from Beijing compared to August 2012. Continued rapid growth is projected out of the China market for the remainder of this fiscal year, with travel to the CNMI

Jorgensen, and local counsel Stephen C. Woodruff—also submitted applications that would bring the total attorney’s fees and costs to at least \$40.6 million.

Class action vs garment factories

In the class action against the garment manufacturers on Saipan, the federal court approved the plaintiffs’ request for attorneys’ fees in the amount of \$3.15 million and expenses totaling \$5.6 million, as agreed to by the parties in the settlement.

Dotts said the attorneys’ fees were agreed as part of the settlement and then approved by the court using the lodestar method.

In that class action, Dotts said the plaintiffs’ attorneys sought only 14 percent of what they would have collected if they charged their normal hourly rates for all of the hours they worked.

“They did not seek a multiplier. They reduced the lodestar amount by 86 percent,” Dotts added.

The class action against the garment factories ended up with a settlement after almost four years of hard-fought and high-risk litigation in federal court. The court preliminarily approved in October 2002 the settlement in which the centerpiece was approximately \$20 million settlement fund and a monitoring program.

Then U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson approved the settlement agreement in April 2003.

The litigation in this case hap-

pened in three different actions in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Honolulu, and Saipan, against more than four dozen defendants.

Attorney Joyce C.H. Tang of the Guam-based law firm of Teker Civile Torres & Tang prepared the plaintiffs’ memorandum in support of application for attorneys’ fees and expenses in March 2003.

The plaintiffs’ counsel, Milberg Weiss law firm based in San Diego, California, retained several local counsels to help mainland lawyers with the litigations in federal court. Among the local counsels were Tang’s law firm and Pamela Brown.

Tang was also involved in the settlement negotiations in Johnson’s case as her law firm served as the Fund trustee *ad litem*.

In the class action against the garment manufacturers, Tang claimed that the sometimes crushing demands of the cases required plaintiffs’ counsels to spend almost 70,000 hours prosecuting the cases, representing a lodestar of over \$21 million for time through February 2003.

Tang said the plaintiffs’ counsel spent nearly \$6 million of their own money on litigation expenses, yet several of the lawyers representing plaintiffs waived their fees entirely for purposes of the settlement, and sought reimbursement of less than their total litigation expenses.

Tang said the amount requested for attorneys’ fees represents just 14 percent of the total lodestar of the plaintiffs’ law firms—which is \$21.4 million.

ARRIVALS

From Page 1

The August 2013 visitor arrivals to the CNMI were up 12 percent compared to August 2012, registering 44,817 visitors in August compared to 40,225 in August 2012.

Arrivals from Japan reached the highest levels of the year in August at 17,755 visitors, just 1 percent down from August 2012 and maintaining Japan’s position as the CNMI’s leading source of visitors. Delta Air Lines operated a third flight on 17 days in August

to support peak season travel from Japan. Asiana Airlines launched charter flights from Osaka and 16 charters from Narita in August, as Asiana continued to boost its charter commitment to the CNMI. Finally, Saipan saw six Delta Air Lines charters from Nagoya in August and an additional charter from Hiroshima, all of which combined to drive arrivals from Japan in August to the highest levels seen this year.

Key travel agencies in Japan, however, continue to attribute the flat market from Japan to the CNMI to the

projected to rise significantly through the national holidays in early October.

Finally, arrivals from Russia more than doubled in August for the second month in a row, jumping 133 percent to 835. The Northern Marianas has been receiving bi-weekly direct charter flights from Vladivostok from October 2012 to August 2013 and weekly charter flights from Khabarovsk since March this year, driving rapid growth out of the Russia market. Weekly charter flights from Vladivostok will resume in October 2013.

Economic highlights

In its August report, the Japan Cabinet Office noted that the Japanese economy continues to pick up steadily and the economic recovery is expected to continue. In August, the value of the yen slightly appreciated to 98 yen versus the U.S. dollar due to uncertainty about the economic effects of action against Syria.

Japan’s largest travel agent JTB conducted a survey of its customers to determine summer travel trends. The most popular family travel destinations in order were Europe, Hawaii, the US mainland/Canada, Guam/Saipan, and Oceania. *(MVA)*

DPW halts DPS from building repair over lack of permit

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Works temporarily stopped yesterday the Department of Public Safety and its contractor Big Bell from doing repair work on one of DPS' buildings in Susupe upon discovery that they lack a building permit from DPW.

DPW Secretary Martin Sablan, in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, said the department asked Big Bell to apply for and secure a building permit

from DPW before it can proceed with the building repair.

"That was a stop-work order from DPW," said Sablan.

DPS Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero, in a separate interview yesterday, said the lack of a DPW building permit was an "oversight" on the part of their contractor, Big Bell.

"The contractor ceased the repair and is now coordinating with DPW to get a permit," Deleon Guerrero said.

Deleon Guerrero said the work involves mostly "replace-

ment of termite-infested walls" and there's no significant modification to the building.

Just the same, Deleon Guerrero said DPS and the contractor have been communicating with DPW to comply with the latter's requirements of securing a building permit first before doing any building construction or repair work.

He said the building was built in the '50s, and badly need a lot of repair. However, because of limited funding, the repair is done on an "incremental" basis,

the DPS commissioner said.

This phase of the repair project costs under \$10,000, he added.

The issue was brought up—in passing—during the signing of a proclamation declaring Sept. 15 to 21 Child Passenger Safety Week on Capital Hill yesterday morning.

"We are just enforcing the building permit requirement," Sablan said.

Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider said this only shows that

government agencies such as DPW are doing their job and are applying their requirements equally, whether the ones involved are private entities or government agencies and their contractors.

"And we need to right the wrong," he said.

Sablan, when pressed on the issue, said he was just passing by the DPS compound in Susupe yesterday morning when he noticed some construction being done to one of DPS's

buildings.

"I didn't recall signing off on any building permit involving DPS so I checked with the office. That's when we discovered there was no building permit. That's how it started. We asked them to stop the work until they get a DPW building permit," Sablan added.

Many CNMI government buildings including the ones belonging to DPS were built 50 or 60-plus years ago, and many need major repair.

House OKs video lottery, DC withdrawal bills

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Besides approving an Article 12 initiative and a resolution against an estimated \$40.7 million in plaintiff attorneys' fees in a Retirement Fund case, the House of Representatives also passed on Tuesday six other measures that include allowing video lottery operations in the CNMI and a green light for defined contribution plan members to withdraw their contributions without having to quit their job.

The House also passed a bill authorizing the assessment of fees on tourists visiting Marine Protected Areas such as Mañagaha and Bird Island.

By a vote of 14-2, the House passed at 5:17pm Rep. Antonio Agulto's (Ind-Saipan) House Bill 18-100, as amended, allowing the operations of video lottery to help generate new sources of revenues to help the Fund and other public programs.

The video lottery bill allows video lottery terminals at certain hotels, golf resorts, and airport departure areas.

Video lottery is a system in which players wager on machines and winners are chosen based on random selection done by a computer.

The House also passed vice speaker Frank Dela Cruz's (Ind-Saipan) DC plan contribution withdrawal bill (HB 18-46, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1) by a vote of 18-0 at 3:33pm Tuesday. The bill now goes to the governor for action.

"If the governor signs this bill into law, I can roll over my DC plan contribution from ASC to a

Roth Individual Retirement Account, which is one of the top 10 in the nation," said Wence T. Aquino, a Department of Public Lands land claims investigator III who patiently waited for the bill to pass at the House Tuesday afternoon.

There is still no telling whether the governor will sign this into law.

"This is still under advisement," press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday.

The House also passed Rep. John Paul Sablan's (Cov-Saipan) HB 18-88, as amended, criminalizing the sale and/or resale of products bought from the Army and Air Force Exchange Service or troop store. The bill, which passed by a vote of 19-0 at 2:57pm, goes to the Senate.

House members also passed Rep. Richard Seman's (R-Saipan) HB 18-25, HD1, authorizing the Division of Fish and Wildlife to develop a system for the assessment of fees on tourists visiting Marine Protected Areas such as Mañagaha and Bird Islands. The bill is Senate-bound.

Also passed by a vote of 16-0 at 5:19pm was HB 18-83, HD1, which provides for the care, maintenance, supervision and administration of public cemeteries. The bill goes to the Senate.

The House also adopted unanimously a resolution honoring the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve and the Guam-CNMI Committee for their outstanding service. Commemorative Resolution 18-5 also recognizes Sept. 9 through 13 as "Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week."

Medicare inspection of hospital enters seventh day

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A five-member team from the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that's doing a top-to-bottom inspection of the Commonwealth Health Center entered its seventh day yesterday with no major issues being raised so far.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. interim CEO Esther Muña confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the federal team, led by survey certificate and enforcement branch manager Rufus Arther, remains on island and continues to monitor the operation of the hospital.

The group arrived unannounced on Sept. 9 for a complete resurvey of the facility.

Compared to the initial survey in September 2012, the Medicare team has so far not raised any major concern or deficiency they may have uncovered since the first day of their inspection last week.

CHC was sanctioned with three immediate jeopardy statuses after the September 2012 survey due to serious deficiencies uncovered only in the first two days of the team's inspection.

According to Muña, she expects the exit conference with the federal group to take place within a day or two.

"The team is still on island and we expect them to finish tomorrow [Wednesday] or the next day. None yet being raised," Muña said.

Whenever a survey is completed, the Medicare team al-

» Corporation CEO bares no issue being raised so far

ways conducts an exit interview with the participating provider to share the team's findings. The provider is then given 10 days to correct any issue raised by the visiting team.

In a separate interview yesterday, corporation board chair Joaquin Torres expects the exit interview to occur before Friday. Board members usually participate in the exit conference.

Torres expressed optimism yesterday that the public hospital would finally get out from being decertified by CMS due to the progress made—and still being made—by the corporation.


"It looks like the survey is going well...so far, so good. Although I am pretty sure that something still needs to be corrected, I have no reason to think that we will be in any source of trouble again because we maintained our focus in rectifying all the deficiencies and concerns they raised," Torres said.

He cited the existing air-conditioning system at the facility, which remains a concern for CMS. However, he said that funds have already been identified to procure the equipment and it is now in the process.


Muña earlier disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that the Executive Branch has approved a \$5 million CIP funding for the hospital's HVAC (air-conditioning), fire sprinklers, fire pumps, and elevators.

CHC receives about \$22 million a year in reimbursements from Medicaid and Medicare. Without the certification for continued Condition of Participation, CHC stands to lose this huge federal assistance.

CMS first threatened to terminate CHC's Condition of Participation in September last year due to layers of immediate jeopardy uncovered at the facility.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Board of Parole
P.O. Box 502641 Saipan, MP 96950-2641
Tel. Nos.: (670) 664-3300 - 3302 • Fax: (670) 664-3310
E-mail: govbp@pticom.com



PUBLIC NOTICE
Executive Meeting

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992". Notice is hereby given that a Executive Meeting is scheduled for September 24, 2013, (Tuesday) beginning at 9:00 A.M., at the Multi-Purpose Center, Conference Room, Susupe, Saipan.


The following items are included in the agenda:

- I. Preliminary Matters
 - A) Call to order
 - B) Roll Call
 - C) Presence of Quorum
- II. Consent Items
 - A) Review/Adoption of Agenda
 - B) Adoption of Executive Meeting Minutes – May 15, 2013
- III. New Business
 - A) Chairman's Report
 - B) Chief of Parole's Report
- IV. Old Business
 - A) Board Policy on the Conduct of Executive Meeting and Parole Hearings
 - B) Commonwealth Constitution: Article III Re: Section 9: Executive Functions
 - (c) Reprieves, Commutations and Pardons
 - C) Board's Drug Testing Policy
 - D) Board's Rules and Regulations Status
- V. Miscellaneous
 - A) Other Matters
- VI. Adjournment


If you have any question, please call the Parole Office at telephone number 664-3300 or 3302.

/s/ Ramon B. Camacho
Chairman

Date: 09/11/13



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PUBLIC NOTICE
Parole Hearing

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992". Notice is hereby given that a Parole Hearing is scheduled for **September 23, 2013, (Monday)** beginning at **10:00 A.M., and if needed be to continue on September 24, 2013, (Tuesday) at 9:00 A.M. at the Multi-Purpose Center, Conference Room, Susupe, Saipan.**

The following items are included in the agenda:

I. Preliminary Matters <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Call to Order2. Roll Call3. Presence of Quorum		
II. Consent Items <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Adoption of Agenda		
III. Parole Application <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Arinna A. Reiong2. Ray Anthony Babauta3. Norna Tipingeni	BOP No. 13-006 13-007 13-008	Criminal Case No. 11-0251E 09-0231 11-0251E
IV. Re-Parole Application <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Oscar R. Babauta	BOP No. RA-11-003	Criminal Case No. 97-0031
V. Miscellaneous <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Other Matters		
VI. Adjournment		

If you have any question, please call the Parole Office at telephone number 664-3300 or 3302.

/s/ Ramon B. Camacho
Chairman

Date: 9/11/2013



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE
OUTBOARD MOTOR ENGINES/VEHICLE
CPA-PAN-003-13

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority will sell at Public Auction, October 4th, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. two (2) units, 2006 Mercury Outboard Engines, 250HP/Four Stroke and one (1) unit 1996 Toyota Camry.

The outboard engines will be sold as a pair only and may be inspected at the CPA Seaport Office, Port of Saipan by contacting Ms. Kay Inos at telephone number 664-3550/3560.

A minimum bid for the engines is set at \$3,000.00. Open bid for the vehicle. The engines and vehicle are sold "As Is" and "Where Is" and without Warranty. The successful bidder is required to pay 20% down payment at CPA Seaport Office on acceptance of bid. Balance shall be payable at the CPA Accounting Office, Saipan International Airport within 5 calendar days from auction closing date. Failure to pay will result in the forfeiture of the down payment. Payment shall be in cash, cashier's check, or money order payable to CPA.

CPA assumes no responsibility for any costs incurred by bidder's in their preparation of the bids.

Inquiries may be directed to the Procurement Officer, Mr. Alex C. Tudela, at telephone number 237-6563.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director

26 firms, over 100 students take part in PSS career fair

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System marked another success in yesterday's career fair, which saw the participation of 26 various companies and more than a hundred students from public schools.

Tyce Mister, teacher-coordinator for the Marianas High School's Cooperative Education and Training Program, disclosed that about 120 high school students took part in the fair yesterday noon at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

The students were from the cooperative education and training program of MHS, Kagman High School, and Saipan Southern High School. Students from the special edu-



PSS

A student is interviewed by company officials during yesterday's PSS career fair at the Hyatt Regency Saipan. A total of 26 companies and about 120 high school students took part in the activity.

cation secondary transition program were also in attendance in yesterday's activity.

The cooperative program is designed to help prepare students for the job market. The program consists of both cooperative education on campus and cooperative training off campus. Students first learn how to complete résumés, applications, interviews, and personal

development, then gain work experience by participating as a "trainee" at an off campus business organization. The training hours are generally during the afternoon school hours.

The career fair, held at the Hyatt Regency's SandCastle starting at 1:30pm, saw the participation of companies and groups that included the Law Office of Robert Torres, Hyatt

Regency Saipan, IT&E, WIA, NMC Career Center, Marianas Medical Center, Bridge Capital LLC, Commonwealth Cancer Association, Saipan World Resort, Northern Marianas Housing Corp., CNMI Judicial Branch, Botchee Int'l Games, Joeten Enterprises Inc., Joeten Kiyu Public Library, Pacific Airport Services, *Marianas Variety*, Marianas Health Ser-

vices, Saipan Apparel, Kan Pacific Saipan, Pacific Islands Club, Medical Associates of the Pacific, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Community Guidance Center - Project Brabu, PSS Central Offices, Hard Rock Café, and Northern Marianas Trades Institute.

MCS welcomes Sutherland and Blanco

Mount Carmel School welcomed four new teachers at the beginning of this school year, and at last week's flag assembly two more employees were added to the MCS family: Walter J. Sutherland and John S. Blanco.

Sutherland hails from Evansville, Indiana and graduated from the University of Southern Indiana in 2009 with a bachelor's degree in business.

Before accepting the position as an eighth grade teacher at Mount Carmel School, Sutherland served as a sports reporter and photographer for the *Saipan Tribune* where he met many of the island's people and wrote feature stories about aspiring athletes.

Sutherland described his experience so far at MCS as "challenging" but added that the students, faculty, and staff make him feel right at home. Sutherland is no stranger to Saipan, as his mother, Lulu Cepeda, graduated from this very school in 1971.



Sutherland



Blanco

John S. Blanco, the newly appointed director of Institutional Development, is also no stranger to Mount Carmel School. He is a 1990 AlumKnight, and two of his children, Juan and Elisa, are following in his footsteps as students of MCS.

After graduating from high school, Blanco attended Washington State University and graduated with a bachelor's degree in social sciences. He returned to Saipan and worked for the Department of Commerce in various capacities, and also taught at Saipan Southern High School for three and a half years.

When asked why he came back to MCS, Blanco said, "I love this school, and I've always wanted to help the school, one way or another." He described his current position as his "dream job."

Blanco plans to identify funding for MCS, and is very enthusiastic about improving the sports program in the school by introducing football and hopefully making MCS a "football powerhouse." (PR)

Mid-Autumn Festival tomorrow at Kanoa Resort

Kanoa Resort will be holding the 2013 Mid-Autumn Festival tomorrow, Sept. 19, at the Supe landmark's lobby.

More commonly known as the Moon Cake Festival, the Chinese festival celebrates the gathering of family and friends during harvest. It is also a sort of thanksgiving for a good harvest and a prayer for good fortune.

Traditions and myths surrounding the festival are formed around these three concepts of gathering, harvest, and prayer, although traditions

have changed over time due to changes in technology, science, economy, culture, and religion.

The People's Republic of China listed the festival as an "intangible cultural heritage" in 2006, and it was made a Chinese public holiday in 2008. It is also a public holiday in Taiwan. Among the Vietnamese, it is considered the second most important holiday tradition. The day following Mid-Autumn Festival is a public holiday in Hong Kong and Macau.

Aside from Chinese delica-

cies, a Chinese dragon dance, and fireworks, authentic Chinese entertainment is also expected to liven up the crowd during the 2013 Mid-Autumn Festival.

Kanoa Resort resident manager Mark Ratliff said that members of the Doremi Music School, a female singer, and possibly violinists will also be performing.

Ratliff expects 100 tourists and local residents to attend the 2013 Mid-Autumn Festival, which begins 6:30pm. (Saipan Tribune)

John Gonzales LIVE schedule

Today's edition of the John Gonzales LIVE will feature Childhood Obesity & Cancer Awareness and Let's Move Marianas 2013 Expo, with replays on Sep. 23 and 24, 2013. Guests include Roxanne P. Diaz, CHCC director of Public Health Bureau; Juan L. Babauta, Commonwealth Cancer Association; and Amber Mendiola, chairwoman, Let's Move Marianas 2013.

Next week, Sept. 25, 2013, John Gonzales LIVE will have the topic "Celebrating 25 Years of Public Education" and "2013 Education Month," with replays on Sep. 30 and Oct. 1, 2013. The panelists for Education Month are Paulette Sablan, principal, GES and committee chair for Education Day; Lucretia Borja, acting HRO, committee chair for Employees of the Year; and Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan. The panelists for 25 Years are Herman T. Guerrero, chairman State Board of Education; Sablan, Jackie A. Quitugua, and Glenn Muna.

John Gonzales LIVE airs live on Wednesday and rebroadcasts on Monday and Tuesday the following week, all from 6:30pm to 7:30pm on MCV Ch. 14. John Gonzales LIVE also rebroadcasts on Betelnut Radio (www.betelnutradio.com).

Viewers can participate by calling (287-4230), texting (285-META) (6382), or emailing johngonzaleslive@gmail.com. (PR)

Robert Tenorio Torres

Attorney at Law
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Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST,	Civil Action No. 11-0106
Plaintiff,	
vs.	NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE
ROMAN P. LIZAMA and NAMIE ILEMELONG,	
Defendants.	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 24th day of January, 2013, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the 9th day of October, 2013 at 10 a.m., at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot 011 G 36, containing an area of 865 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 02, the original of which was recorded on December 16, 1993 as Document No. 93-4410 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, CNMI.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

- 1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - c) to reject any and all bids.
- 2. Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.
- 3. Deposit and Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to Marianas Public Land Trust.
- 4. Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and Marianas Public Land Trust reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- 5. Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 21st day of August, 2013.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST,	Civil Action No. 11-0077
Plaintiff,	
vs.	NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE
JAMES T. LIZAMA and JINTANA K. LIZAMA,	
Defendants.	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 2nd day of January, 2013, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the 9th day of October, 2013 at 10 a.m., at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot 011 G 239, containing an area of 865 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 05 dated December 1, 1993, and recorded at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office on December 16, 1993 as File No. 93-4413.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

- 1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - c) to reject any and all bids.
- 2. Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.
- 3. Deposit and Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to Marianas Public Land Trust.
- 4. Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and Marianas Public Land Trust reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- 5. Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 21st day of August, 2013.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

DES to use McTeacher's Night funds to buy supplies

For Dandan Elementary School 4th grade teacher Rachel Reyes, putting on the McDonald's uniform, hat, and apron was a fantasy come true last May when the school had its McTeacher's Night stint.

Reyes said she's always wanted to be a McDonald's crew when she was in high school in her native Philippines. However, due to a host of factors she never got the chance to work for the world's largest fast-food chain.

That all changed a couple of months back when Reyes and close to 30 staff of Dandan Elementary School manned the cash registers and helped take orders on all Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays of the week in May.

Another fourth grade teacher from the school, Bill Harwood, said his McTeacher's Night experience was surreal as his

youngest son, a 14-year-old, recently worked at McDonald's.

McDonald's Saipan rewarded Reyes, Harwood, and the school's volunteerism yesterday when the company handed over a check representing the school's portion for participating in McTeacher's Night.

McTeacher's Night was launched in December to generate funds to support activities and projects of individual PSS schools. Under the effort, teachers and staff of the school serve customers at McDonald's in exchange for a percentage of sales.

Dandan Elementary School principal Martha Kintol said the money they got would be used to buy much-needed school supplies.

She said her teachers have been asking her office to buy flipcharts, which are pretty expensive at \$20 a pop. Another pressing need are crayons and scissors.

Kintol said the school normally provides crayons and scissors but the lack of budget has prevented this. She said they have asked students' parents to supply these materials, but some of them have trouble doing so.

Money left after buying flipcharts, crayons, scissors, and

other school materials would be used to repaint Dandan Elementary School's playground, which is long overdue for repairs.

Helping the school's fundraising effort last May was a competition to see which class (students and parents) would have the most participants dur-

ing McTeacher's Night. The school gave a pizza party to the winning class.

Kintol, meanwhile, thanked McDonald's Saipan and Ayuyu family for donating funds to the school through the McTeacher's Night campaign.

McDonald's Saipan general

manager Marcia Ayuyu thanked Dandan Elementary School for their enthusiasm during McTeacher's Night, saying it is their way of giving back, especially to public schools, which her husband, McDonald's Saipan president Joe Ayuyu, holds close to his heart. *(Saipan Tribune)*



Dandan Elementary School 4th grade teacher Rachel Reyes, second from left, poses with the school's principal Martha Kintol, second from right, fellow 4th grade teacher Bill Harwood, and McDonald's Saipan general manager Marcia Ayuyu during the check presentation yesterday at McDonald's Middle Road.

High surf warning until Friday

The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management issued a high surf advisory yesterday that will remain in effect until 6am on Friday.

It said a monsoon surge west of the Marianas is creating a west swell that will produce hazardous surf along west-facing reefs the next couple of days.

"Surf will be hazardous at 7 to 9 feet along west-facing reefs through at least Thursday night," the agency said.

It advises the general public and inexperienced mariners to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches, especially those along west-facing reefs as rip currents are life threatening. *(PR)*



Job Summary:

The Wireless Transmission Technician maintains, and repairs the electronic and electro-mechanical switching equipment in the IT&E Central Office. The Technician monitors the complex and sophisticated telecommunications equipment in the Central Office, trouble shooting and repairing such equipment as the Electronic Digital Switching, billing, and related overseas and inter-office trunk and carrier equipment.

Minimum Qualification Requirements:

Education: High School diploma and one year of formal training/education in telecommunications, electronics, computers or other related technical area, or an additional one year of related experience.

Work Experience: Three years experience in telecommunications technician type work such as Switching Technician, Equipment Technician and Wireless Transmission Technician. Experience in personal computer operations required.

Licensure/Certification/Professional Association:

Appropriate vendor certification for business systems installation and maintenance are desirable, but not required at time of hire.

Special Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

1. Knowledge of:
 - a. Electrical theory and application, electronics technology, and computer technology
 - b. General telecommunications installation and maintenance requirements
 - c. Telecommunications equipment and processes, to include wireless transmission equipment and electric/electronic safety requirements
 - d. Basic customer service skills
2. Skills in:
 - a. Efficiently managing material resources
 - b. Installing, splicing and connecting wires and cables.
 - c. Using various electric/electronic testing equipment
 - d. Using personal computer hardware and Microsoft software programs
3. Ability to:
 - a. Communicate clearly, concisely and accurately, both verbally and in writing
 - b. Troubleshoot electro-mechanical problems and reach appropriate technical solutions
 - c. Make logical and sound decisions in the resolution of complex mechanical/electronic equipment situations
 - d. Perform in a self-directed, creative and forward thinking manner
 - e. Work in indoor construction-like conditions and outdoors in all types of island weather conditions
 - f. Climb ladders, poles and if certified, towers; not afraid of heights
 - g. Work in dusty construction-like areas, confined spaces and heights
4. Other Requirements:
 - a. Perform overtime when required
 - b. Work occasional call out and standby
 - c. Travel to neighboring islands

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IT&E affords equal opportunity to all applicants and employees for hire and promotion without regard to race, color, origin, gender, age, marital status, religion, veteran status, or handicap.



The Saipan Chamber of Commerce
has an opening for

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is a private, non-profit organization. Its purpose is to further the interests of business, as well as to promote quality of life and economic progress, in Saipan.

The **Executive Director** reports directly to the Chamber Board of Directors and manages and administers the Chamber Office.

Responsibilities:

- Manage the Chamber office and serve as custodian of Chamber funds
- Organize and attend Board of Directors meetings and Committee meetings and activities
- Plan and coordinate Chamber activities throughout the year
- Coordinate internal and external communications
- Prepare monthly newsletter
- Maintain Chamber websites
- Research pending legislative bills and prepare comments
- Respond to inquiries from members, non-members, residents, tourists, prospective businesses and others
- Promote Chamber membership within the business community

The applicant must have the following minimum qualifications:

- Resident of the CNMI/USA
- BA in Business Administration or equivalent
- Strong work ethic and customer service orientation
- Self-motivating
- Ability to work with a team
- Excellent organization and office skills
- Experience with computer systems/software (spreadsheets, word processing, desktop publishing)

Chamber office hours are 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday; however, this is a salaried position and hours will vary.

Salary is commensurate with experience and qualifications. Qualified individuals should submit a resume and application to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce office, 1st floor, Family Building in Garapan or contact 233-7150 for more information. Deadline for submission is September 20, 2013.

Correcting fatal \$80M error in budget requires new bill

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Legislature will not recall the \$123.4-million budget bill it sent to Gov. Eloy S. Inos last week despite a fatal error of over \$80 million for the NMI Retirement, but will instead pass a new bill correcting that mistake immediately after the fiscal year 2014 budget law signing.

Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) said the fiscal year 2014 budget measure has to be signed into law first before it could be amended "as soon as possible" or prior to Oct. 1.

The governor is now reviewing the budget bill.

The administration believes the \$80 million difference in the Fund budget was an "oversight" on the part of the Legislature, press secretary Angel Demapan said.

The 2014 budget bill from the Legislature reflected a \$4.030 million budget for the Retirement Fund, instead of \$84.765 million.

If this is not corrected, the Fund will end up paying only a one full pension in fiscal year

2014, and that will only be on Oct. 15, 2013.

This would leave thousands of retirees without pension next fiscal year.

» Administration, Legislature reach consensus

Demapan said the administration had initially asked the Legislature to recall the budget bill in its entirety to make the necessary correction.

"However, after discussion with the Legislature, the consensus to rectify this situation was that the Legislature will pass a separate measure correct-

ing this deficiency. As such, the administration is drafting this bill for action by the Legislature," the press secretary told *Saipan Tribune*.

House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) separately said yesterday that the House initially thought about recalling the budget bill to correct it, then ensure it passes both the houses once again and sent to the governor before the Sept. 30 deadline.

"But that would take longer than the other option, which is to have the existing budget bill signed into law and have a bill

to amend that budget law passed and sent to the governor," he said.

Besides, lawmakers may end up adding more to the existing budget bill if it is recalled, instead of just correcting the Fund budget.

The speaker said the \$80 million difference was an "oversight."

He said the over \$84 million Fund operations budget is in the spreadsheet but was not reflected in the budget bill itself.

Demapan said the governor is confident that the Legislature will pass the amendment bill right away "because this is the

consensus of the administration and the Legislature."

Acting NMI Retirement Fund administrator Lillian M. Pangelinan brought this significant error to the governor's attention last week.

The Fund pays out some \$6 million in monthly pension benefits, or about \$3 million every 15 days.

"If the budget bill passes in its current form, the Fund will only be able to pay a full pension on Oct. 15, 2013. Thereafter, no pension payments can be made for the rest of 2014," Pangelinan told Inos.



Inos declares Sept. 11 a Day of Service and Remembrance

Gov. Eloy S. Inos joins members of the U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance Marianas Chapter led by chair Dr. Celia Lamkin after the governor signed on Capital Hill a proclamation last Wednesday declaring Sept. 11, 2013 a "Day of Service and Remembrance" to honor the lives and memories of those who perished in the Sept. 11, 2001 terror attacks.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Gov. Eloy S. Inos declared Sept. 11, 2013, last Wednesday as a Day of Service and Remembrance in the CNMI.

In the presence of 40 people, Inos signed the proclamation that read: "On September 11, 2001, the American people endured with courage and heroism the worst terrorist attack on U.S. soil in the nation's history; and in response to this tragedy, Americans across the country came together in

a remarkable spirit of patriotism and unity and carried out countless acts of kindness, generosity, and compassion."

Years since the tragedy, community organizations and family members of 9/11 victims began observing the anniversary of Sept. 11 as a charitable service day to honor the memory of those who were lost and those who united in response to the tragedy, including first responders and volunteers.

Sept. 11 was made a day of service and remembrance every year after Congress in April 21, 2009, approved the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, which states the anniversary of the attacks should be observed and recognized as an annual "National Day of Service and Remembrance." The Act charged the Corporation for National and Community Service with leading this nationwide effort.

"Participating in service and remembrance activities in September is a positive and respectful way to remember the lives of those lost, pay tribute to those who rose in service, and honor those who continue to serve our country today, including veterans, soldiers, military families, and first responders," the proclamation reads.

Dr. Celia Lamkin, chairperson of the U.S. Pinoys for Good Government CNMI Chapter

and a volunteer of the Corporation for National and Community Service, spearheaded the effort to have Inos declare Sept. 11, 2013, a Day of Service and Remembrance in the CNMI.

Aside from Inos and Lamkin, also present during the proclamation signing were Department of Public Lands Secretary Pete Tenorio, Inos' special assistant for administration Esther Fleming, Department of Public Safety Commissioner

James Deleon Guerrero, Attorney General Joey San Nicolas, Department of Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Arnold Palacios, transportation adviser Tom Camacho, American Memorial Park chief ranger Jason Beatty, AmeriCorps director Vicky Nicholas, Division of Environmental Quality director Frank Rabauliman, press secretary Angel Demapan, and Inos' legal counsel, Teresa Kim. (*Saipan Tribune*)

38 apply in UFO passport pre-processing

Some 38 Filipinos took advantage of the passport pre-processing conducted by the United Filipino Organization last Sunday, Sept. 15, at the back of the TSL Plaza in Garapan.

UFO president Annamae Adaza said the pre-processing passport application went smoothly, starting after lunch and ending around 4pm.

She thanked TSL Plaza for allowing them to set up at the parking lot and Docomo Pacific for lending them a tent.

Aside from the 38 who submitted documents and filled out forms, Adaza said 15 other Filipinos personally approached her and gave her documents and filled out and signed forms days before the event.

She said UFO has already transmitted all 53 passport pre-processing applications to the

Philippine Consulate General in Guam Sunday evening. She said the entire process was made easy and efficient because of the presence of scanners and other equipment.

Adaza said those who were not able to submit documents and filled-out forms can still do so by contacting her through 483-5237 or UFO secretary Mario Mayuga at 285-1021.

Sunday's activity is in advance of the mobile outreach consular services the Philippine Consulate General will conduct on Saipan from Oct. 7 to 10 at the Daidai Social Hall of the Mt. Carmel Cathedral.

Among the services offered by the consular outreach next month are passport processing, notarials, contract verifications, civil registration, and acceptance of dual citizenship under

Republic Act 9225.

Aside from submitting documents to UFO last Sunday, there are two other ways to apply for a passport: through pre-processing or appointment.

Due to limitations in its passport data-capturing capabilities, only 60 applications will be accepted for pre-processing and only 50 applications for passport appointments.

Like the first two mobile consular services, those opting for the pre-processing procedure should email a copy of their passport, application form, and other important documents like marriage certificate, report of birth, or report of marriage to saipan.pcgagana@gmail.com.

The consulate general is accepting pre-processing applications until 5pm on Sept. 24.

Applications submitted after 5pm on Sept. 24 will not be accepted and will not be given a schedule.

Those without Internet access who wish to apply or renew their passports can do so by setting an appointment with the consulate general by call-

ing 682-2222 up to 5pm of Sept. 24. Ask for Margie Morales and give her details like your full name, date of birth, passport expiration, and contact number.

The consulate general is also reminding everyone that only 200 will be given ap-

pointments for ePassport. Therefore those who want to apply for passports should call or sign up as early as possible.

For questions or clarifications regarding the mobile consular outreach, call the consulate general at its toll free number, 682-2222. (*Saipan Tribune*)

2 witnesses take stand in teen beating case

The prosecution called yesterday two more witnesses in the ongoing jury trial in the Superior Court of an alleged illegal taxi driver and his male companion who are facing charges of beating up and threatening to kill a teen passenger in Tanapag.

After defense counsel Colin Thompson and assistant public defender Matthew Meyer completed their lengthy cross-examination of the alleged victim, the prosecution called

two more witnesses, including the alleged victim's former girlfriend.

The prosecution is expected to call its fourth witness today, Wednesday, at 8:30am, during the resumption of the trial of taxi driver Han Tai Lin and his friend, Ji Jing Borja.

The alleged victim, now 17 years old, gave his testimony on Monday. He narrated how Lin allegedly threatened to kill him with an 18-inch screwdriver more than 30 times and

punched him on the face twice.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho is presiding over the trial.

Police arrested Borja and Lin shortly after the incident that allegedly occurred on Oct. 7, 2012. The Office of the Attorney General charged the defendants with assault with a dangerous weapon, kidnapping, assault, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. The defendants denied the charges. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Island Snapshots

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happy 89th birthday to Alfonso C. Reyes, affectionately known as "Tang!" We love you! Greetings come from the family!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to Corey Mendiola! God bless and may you have many more to come. We love you.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday Jaz! God bless and may you have many more birthdays to come. We love you!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy 17th birthday, Sierra Calvo! Hope you enjoy your special day. We love and miss you. Greetings come from Gregory Jr. and family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday greetings go out to Kenneth Limon, who is celebrating her special day today, Sept. 18! May every day bring something new and exciting for you, may this birthday turn out to be as amazing as you are! We love you! Greetings come from friends and family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



▲ NEPHROLOGY NURSES WEEK

St. Jude Renal Care Facility kicked off the CNMI Nephrology Nurses Week with some preventative action on Sept. 7. The nurses set up a booth to conduct blood pressure check, glucose check and education on end stage renal disease. The nurses were able to reach out and educate approximately 189 people.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



PALOOZA PROCEEDS

American Red Cross-NMI Chapter executive director John Hirsh, second left, receives a \$5,000 check from Pacific Islands Club's executive assistant Vicky Benavente, left, Sports, Entertainment and Activities Manager Dennis Tababa, second right, and Director of SEA Glenn Policare, right, on Tuesday, Sept. 17. Proceeds raised from PIC's Palooza fundraiser, held earlier this month, went toward supporting ARC's mission in the CNMI.

PIC/CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

PSS INITIATIVE

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, standing right, delivers his welcoming remarks during a ceremony Sunday night for over 70 visiting students and teachers from universities in Japan. With the governor in photo are, from right, Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero (partly hidden), board member Janice Tenorio, Ehime University associate professor Akira Yamanaka, and Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan.

MONETH G. DEPOSA



▲ STRANDED

First responders prepare to board two vessels that broke free from their moorings over the weekend on Tinian and got stranded on the reef near Kammer Beach. One of the vessels remains on the reef.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Man in the muddle

Contrary to those who have caricatured him as an extremist or a tyrant, President Obama tends to search for middle ground almost reflexively. No doubt this useful habit served him well throughout much of his life as an organizer, lawyer and legislator. In the presidency, however, it has sometimes done him in.

Obama's approach to the civil war in Syria is the latest and perhaps most glaring example. There is a line brighter than Obama's infamous red one between military intervention and the lack thereof, and Obama's endless attempts to straddle it have rendered his Syria policy a muddle.

Obama appears to favor nonintervention at heart. In this respect, he is aligned with most of the American public after a decade of long, costly, painful, and largely fruitless wars. But rather than speak up clearly for this utterly defensible point of view, Obama has repeatedly feinted toward U.S. intervention without seeming to mean it. In failing to speak up for the considered position that there is no useful role for the United States in this war, he has played into the hands of those who equate strength with military action.

Obama's "red line" comments are his original sin on the subject. "I have, at this point, not ordered military engagement in the situation," Obama told a reporter asking about Syria last year. But rather than make the case for that position, he hastened to explain that under certain conditions, he would take the opposite position: "We have been very clear to the Assad regime ... that a red line for us is we start seeing a whole bunch of chemical weapons moving around or being utilized. ... We have communicated in no uncertain terms ... that that's a red line for us and that there would be enormous consequences."

Since Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's government apparently killed more than 1,400 in Damascus with poison gas last month, Obama has tried to back away from the consequences of his caveat. "I didn't set a red line," he insisted at one point. "The world set a red line." He then punted the decision to Congress before cautiously endorsing the diplomatic solution accidentally proposed by Secretary of State John Kerry and seized upon by Russian President Vladimir Putin, the Syrian regime's most powerful ally. Meanwhile, the halfhearted threat of an "unbelievably small" military strike, as Kerry put it, lingers.

By dwelling on the circumstances under which he would depart from his decision not to go to war—and on those under which he would depart from his departure—Obama has done a disservice to the millions of Americans who favor more careful consideration of the use of military force, and whose reluctance is reinforced by 12 years of national experience since Sept. 11, 2001.

The case for military restraint is difficult to make in the face of the horrific violence in Syria. But Obama, the winner of a Nobel Peace Prize as well as his last presidential election, is in an ideal position to make it forcefully. Unfortunately, he hasn't.

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Whammies from economic depression

Economists define inflation as two quarters when prices consistently increase. In our case, it's depression—when everything around you shoots triple the speed of inflation. You quiz if it's real while trying to gain footing after being floored by Einstein's definition of insanity—juggling the same figures hoping for different results.

If you will, inflation or stagflation is when prices rise but the economic growth is substandard. Here at home, economic growth is a pipe dream or simply nonexistent. This condition jeopardizes economic stability and the wellbeing of our people. It means that our lower-income people stopped affording many services since recent past.

Stuck and glued to my calculator, I simplified the mathematical ocular journey into the super increases of economic depression. From start to finish, the experience was surreal, prompting a query: How do people at the lower rung of our community make ends meet? Not sure but here's what I found out on a personal basis, a glimpse of a perfect storm of local government malfunction.

The largest whammy is the 25 percent unconstitutional deduction when it goes into effect against pension. Out the window goes keeping up with monthly real estate installment (home), vital medication and healthcare. It feels like a lifetime sentence of slow death by statist decree where we prepare to enter the gates-of-hell-type abject poverty.

While this sends many of us reeling for cover (to which there's none), up goes healthcare policies at no less than 9 percent for policyholders or family of four. Did someone say cost of electricity would also increase in October, discounting increases in fuel and the cost of shipping that translates into higher cost of basic commodities? In short, the cost of living, at least for retirees, has just gone up by some 35 percent.

The collective cost has gone wildly unaffordable, especially for the poorer sector of the population. It has done nothing but force many of our people to seek greener pasture elsewhere. Conditions like temporary employment, underemployment, and unemployment have kept them in their hole of abject poverty. Perhaps politicians ought to probe how our people live. It is no walk in the park. See if you have the courage to do village visits.

The lack of economic opportunities and prosperity has literally turned their tiny paradise into a hellish hole. It's a simple case of joblessness and hopelessness. While the archipelago is slammed into triple or quintuple whammies, the Nancy Boys are sound asleep.

The ugly side of change

Drastic change in small towns or even island communities where land is the foundational institution isn't necessarily for the better.

Russ Mason, a columnist with the MV, wrote that he's shifted his view on changing Article 12, saying the archipelago could turn into a nightmare. He related his experience returning home after two decades.

Said he: "I grew up in Webster, a small town in upstate New York. When I was young, it was a sweet farming town, with some lovely old tree-lined neighborhoods.

"Our main highway, Ridge Road, was fairly empty, except for

By JOHN DELROSARIO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



a few houses, a couple of gas stations and a hamburger stand, Bill Gray's. Within 20 years it turned into a nightmare: strip malls, Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Denny's, car dealerships, and everything was just jammed together along a crowded, four-lane highway.

"When my wife and I visited Webster in 2011, I was saddened by what I saw. None of the apple orchards remained. They were turned into residential tracts with street names like Bonnie Brae Glen. All of the houses looked identical, and there wasn't an apple tree in sight. Is this progress? I hope it doesn't happen here."

Indeed, let's also hope our people aren't displaced permanently in the name of unbridled and unplanned progress.

Culprit: Predatory policies

Federal control of immigration and minimum wage has annihilated everything from the once thriving apparel industry raking in \$1.2 billion annually to misgivings in our partnership with investors from the Land of the Rising Sun.

The shallow policy of more taxes and fees won't do the CNMI any good over the long haul. In fact, it has exacted the complete opposite in revenue generation. It's degeneration! Otherwise, we would have seen some real strides in luring more revenue streams. Then there's the other major culprit, gift-wrapped in the highly prohibitive cost of utilities.

The only alternative is lawsuit via proactive conservative foundations available across the country. I've seen how county, city and state governments have taken federal agencies to court and come out victors. It simply placed and gave credence to the sovereignty of state governments on matters best left in the disposition of states.

There's no telling whether we could regain the trust of investors from Japan. It has taken investment elsewhere to places like Singapore. We could only salivate in the sidelines.

Is there a plan somewhere for economic revival besides consistently pushing failed predatory or regressive policies? This can't go on in perpetuity. Must focus on basics and policy structure.

Miscellany

The Republican and Covenant parties are planning marching down the aisle once more. This time the musical theme isn't "The Wedding" but "Together Again." The Independent Republican is likely to

SEE WHAMMIES on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Five years later, the real reason behind the financial collapse

By **NORBERT J. MICHEL**
THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Sept. 15 marks the five-year anniversary of the Lehman Brothers bankruptcy, the supposed spark that set off the financial crisis of 2008. Conventional wisdom holds that it was the federal government's decision against bailing out this investment bank that froze credit markets and sent the economy into the "great recession."

A *Wall Street Journal* story about the Lehman collapse was titled "The Weekend That Wall Street Died." Much like Mark Twain, though, the reports of Wall Street's demise were greatly exaggerated. The truth is, Lehman Brothers should not have been bailed out and its bankruptcy was far from the cause of the crisis.

For some reason, we're supposed to believe that if only the government had kept this "systemically important" institution from failing, we'd have been spared from the disastrous crisis and the so-called "great recession." This is false.

The key policy failure was most likely regulators' decision in favor of bailing out Bear Sterns, a (smaller) competing investment bank, rather than their decision against saving Lehman. The Bear Sterns bailout set the expectation that Lehman would also be bailed out. Going forward, investors and creditors surely expected, at the

very least, the government to minimize their losses.

In fact, two potential buyers of Lehman walked away from negotiations when they were unable to secure the same government promises given to JPMorgan Chase in their acquisition of Bear Sterns. It was the inconsistent treatment of the two investment banks—not simply the act of letting Lehman file bankruptcy—that was the main problem.

The decision to allow Lehman to enter into bankruptcy did not set off an economic nuclear reaction. And it was nothing compared to the government's incoherent response to market turmoil. Going before Congress, Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke and Treasury Secretary Hank Paulson basically said: We need \$700 billion to fix the problem, but we can't tell you why, and we can't tell you what we're going to do with the money.

It's not much of surprise, then, that economist John Taylor (former undersecretary of the Treasury) found the market reacted more harshly to this request than to Lehman's failure. There's also ample evidence the economy was in trouble long before Lehman filed bankruptcy.

It's well documented that various interest rate spreads—measures of perceived risk in the markets—were heightened during the last half of 2007, nearly one full year before the Lehman collapse. Defaults on subprime mortgages had risen to a four-year high by the first quarter of

2007. Both personal consumption expenditures and civilian employment began downward trends by the last quarter of 2007.

There's no doubt that the Federal Reserve saw these dangers well before Lehman failed. In an effort to head off an economic downturn, the Fed moved aggressively (by lowering its key interest rate target) from September 2007 to January 2008.

Contrary to conventional wisdom, the decision to let Lehman Brothers fail did not cause the financial crisis and the so-called great recession. It's likely that the government's decision to bail out Bear Sterns upset markets more than Lehman's bankruptcy. Lehman's failure was caused by the main driver behind the whole financial crisis: investing an enormous sum of borrowed money in worthless securities.

The notion that allowing Lehman to file bankruptcy caused the financial crisis is both wrong and dangerous. The danger in this myth is that it perpetuates the policy of bailing out financial institutions with taxpayer money. Plus, it allows policymakers who contributed to the crisis to escape responsibility for their actions.

If congressional leaders want to calm markets, they should end the too-big-to-fail doctrine once and for all.

Norbert J. Michel is a research fellow in financial regulations at The Heritage Foundation.

Why journalists are like cops and firefighters

By **JACK SHAFER**
REUTERS

When some of our friends in academia read the top news about Syria on a website or in a newspaper, they do so through a lens ground by UCLA political scientist John Zaller. In a 2003 paper, Zaller analyzed two modes of news production that journalists often employ. While working in patrol mode, the press surveys the landscape for trouble and writes up what it finds, like a cop walking a beat and writing the occasional ticket or making the routine arrest. In alarm mode, aroused reporters respond to calls for help by lighting up the gumball, tossing it on the roof, and peeling out for the crime scene, the building afire, or the battleground.

I simplify Zaller here, just as he modified the patrol/alarm idea of two other political scientists on his way to his insight. But the simplification stands: The journalistic transmission knows two basic gears: slow or fast; monitoring from afar or fully entrenched; casual or obsessed. The press has long treated Syria as just another stop on its Middle East patrol, even though it has regarded massacres as legitimate tools of governance for decades. The migration of the two-year-old Syrian civil war from the back pages to the front, where it now amasses acres of newspaper coverage, can be attributed in equal part to the chemical attacks of late August in the western suburbs of Damascus and the puncturing of the Muslim Brotherhood government in Egypt. There's nothing like chemical weapons dumped on innocents followed by a U.S. president's threat

to drop bombs to change the location of the loudest alarm.

I'm not disparaging anything that's alarmed-based, just acknowledging that it best describes contemporary news coverage, a sentiment shared by many of the scholars cited in a new book by University of California, Davis, political scientist Amber E. Boydston, *Making the News: Politics, The Media, and Agenda Setting*. Boydston argues that in practice, the press follows neither the alarm model nor the patrol model, but oscillates between the two. "News outlets tend to only patrol those neighborhoods covered by beats or triggered by alarms," she writes. Woodward and Bernstein responded to a minor alarm story, went into patrol mode, and as other news organizations followed, the patrol coverage escalated to alarm mode again and again.

Explosive events drive day-to-day coverage, she writes, but that's not always the case. She offers the Boston Globe's enterprise treatment of the Catholic priest sexual-abuse scandal as an example of a news organization that sounded an alarm rather than responding to one. Such alerts, as often as not, signal to the press the need to add a neighborhood to its patrol list.

Although the Syrian body count did not spike with Damascus gassing, the alarm it sounded refreshed all news generated by the region. Beyond who gave the order to fire the weapons and how many the gas bombs actually killed, the attack rang journalistic alarms on the White House beat, because the president is threatening retaliation; on the Pentagon beat, because the general and admirals are fiddling with battle plans; and on the diplomacy beat, because every ambassador and foreign secretary with portfolio is working to pre-

vent the worsening of this vile civil war.

The massive attention being paid to the Syrian story can be easily justified. Depending on what Bashar Hafez al-Assad, Vladimir Putin, Barack Obama, Hassan Nasrallah, Benjamin Netanyahu or Ali Khamenei do in the coming weeks, months, and years—or decide not to do—any number of alarm-worthy stories will emerge. Say Israel uses the chaos as cover to attack Iran. Or Putin backs Syria more forcefully after the United States makes good on its threat to attack, and the regional conflict resurrects the Cold War. Or Syria opens an Israeli front in the conflict. Or the North Koreans step up to demand equal time in their unique war. The psychic in me can sense more latent alarms than there are alarm settings on your iPhone.

Because the press operates with finite resources, and there is only so much room on Page One, the iron law of patrol/alarm coverage dictates that the emergence of a new alarm story mandates the retirement of old alarm stories. In most cases, it matters little whether hordes of innocent people are dying or not, just which alarm howls loudest. For example, see this *Washington Post* timeline of the most deadly attacks in Iraq between mid-2006 and mid-2012, resulting a death toll of 7,049 (<http://wapo.st/tCu8SP>). And the deadly bombings continue. If that's not an alarm story, I don't know what is. But the press can barely muster patrol coverage. Again, that's an observation about—not a criticism of—the press. It's also a bit of an alarm.

Jack Shafer is a Reuters columnist. The opinions expressed are his own.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Doers, the workforce, and wages

A recent editorial said it took America 200 years to reach the present minimum wage. Is he really comparing the CNMI to the U.S. mainland and are we to wait 200 years before we are equal with the mainland's minimum wage? Ridiculous! Well, I'm sure there are many locals with the expectations of us getting there long before 200 years but we won't get anywhere by not moving at all. The editorial told readers all about the cost of doing business but didn't say a darn thing to help people with the cost of keeping their power on and staying alive. People have costs too! Businesses are raising the cost of living almost daily but wages are not being raised—a clear disconnect. It was also an obvious disconnect when the editorial implied that businesses are paying for everything figuratively, which is a real slap in the face to every local and mainland taxpayer. Many locals don't get tax refunds and we all know about the millions we get every year from mainland taxpayers.

Yes, the CNMI started small and it takes time but we have to push for and even protest for better wages, so what I'm doing is only a mild wake-up call. Saying we need to grow makes me wonder if the editorial writer knows how many battles the people had to fight and even die for to get the wages where they are today in the mainland. Does the editorial writer want us to just sit back and let the businesses continue to dictate what we can and cannot do regarding wages and alien workers? When the Chamber sneezes, our leaders

are right there with a Kleenex to see if they can help but we can't even get them to listen to us and return phone calls. We voted twice against casinos and our children are even saying they act like they didn't even hear the people!

The feds mandated immigration and minimum wages because we continued to ignore their respectful request for a decade to stop bringing in so many alien workers and to raise the minimum wage. The feds are doing more to *protect and serve* the locals than our own government and that includes funding as we get more federal help than we generate for ourselves. So why complain about the feds mandating things when we are the problem?

Raising wages may put a challenge on businesses but I'm sure voters are tired of the challenge being put on them, with increases in *everything* that we have to purchase and use but no increase in wages! I'm not advocating kicking out guest workers but I am promoting *more* locals in the workforce. The editorial writer even asserted that promoting local sovereignty over alien worker sovereignty is considered racist. Evidently, the editorial was unaware of the uproar that has been going on for years about the Mexican immigrants in the mainland and Mexicans don't even come close to having the numbers for political sovereignty. Alien workers *are not* Americans but their children will be Americans and they will outnumber the locals so I guess it is OK with the editorial for the CNMI too liter-

ally give away our children's political sovereignty to the children of alien workers. There is nothing racist in Americans preserving political sovereignty for Americans. Contrary to the editorial's belief, there are many of our youth and older professionals who want to come back and they will have to be repatriated with jobs by some means as the mainland is on the other side of the world!

Ambrose Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

WHAMMIES

From Page 10

intone "Hello Dolly" with a gravelly voice to remind the guys, "The impeachment crew's still here!"

Reunited or otherwise, finding a new and sellable narrative would be the same as climbing Mt. Everest. Perhaps the only thing they'd chime is: "We'd climb it because it's there!" While navigating the treacherous trench of economic dystopia—where nothing works—we quiz what they'd offer besides failed "better times." Would it be "This Time?"






The Democrats have begun regrouping to meet the challenges ahead and they'd be roaring too.

Former speaker Heinz Hofschneider is working on rock solid networking that would not only change the political landscape but also boot "followership" from taking its permanent seat peddling mediocrity. We sure need to clean house!

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Northwest winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Northwest winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Partly sunny with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.
▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 78
Palau	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Yap	Showers	▲ 89 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 89 ▼ 79
Pohnpei	Cloudy	▲ 89 ▼ 75
Kosrae	Cloudy	▲ 89 ▼ 75
Majuro	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 79

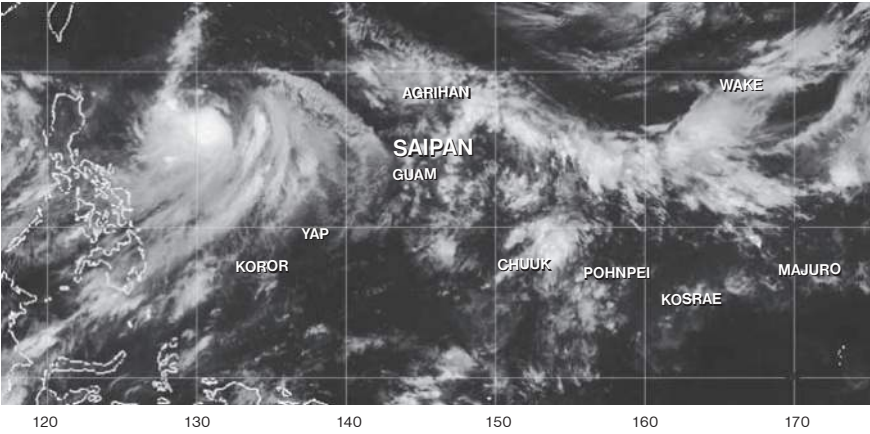
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲ 60 ▼ 49
Beijing	Showers	▲ 82 ▼ 64
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲ 88 ▼ 79
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 75
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 61 ▼ 49
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 81 ▼ 61
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 84 ▼ 78
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 66 ▼ 46
Miami	Showers	▲ 84 ▼ 76
New York	Sunny	▲ 67 ▼ 50
Osaka	Sunny	▲ 86 ▼ 68
Paris	Showers	▲ 63 ▼ 50
Pusan	Windy	▲ 83 ▼ 71
Rome	Sunny	▲ 76 ▼ 63
Salem	Showers	▲ 69 ▼ 53
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▼ 58
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 66
Tokyo	Sunny	▲ 84 ▼ 66
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲ 73 ▼ 55

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
1:27 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet
7:02 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
1:45 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
8:02 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Depression Usagi (17W) is centered northwest of Palau near 18N131E and moving west-southwestward at 5 mph with maximum sustained winds of 35 mph. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are found mainly south of the circulation center between 18N and 11N from 130E to 137E. For more detailed information, see bulletins issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM and by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW. A monsoon trough stretches eastward from Tropical Depression Usagi through a circulation centered east of the Marianas near 15N150E to end near another circulation centered southwest of Wake Island near 17N161E. In addition, an upper-level trough curves southwestward from an upper low centered northeast of Wake Island at 26N169E to another upper low centered west of the Marianas at 18N143E then turns northwestward to reach beyond 25N at 137E. These features are combining to generate scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms primarily east of the Marianas within an area bounded by a line from 22N143E to 15N159E 7N0153E to 7N146E back to 22N143E. Similar weather is found over Wake island within 100 miles of a line from 14N160E to 22N173E and northeast of Wake Island between 25N and 22N from 174E to 179E. A surface trough runs eastward over the northern Marshall Islands from 12N160E to 14N175E. The surface trough combined with upper-level divergence over the region is triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms mainly north of the Marshall Islands between 14N and 11N from 162E to 170E farther northeast. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring within 160 miles of a line from 12N171E to 17N180. Low-level convergence is producing scattered showers southwest of Pohnpei between 7N and 3N from 154E to 158E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:06 AM	6:16 PM
Thursday	6:06 AM	6:16 PM
Friday	6:06 AM	6:15 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:14 PM
Sunday	6:06 AM	6:13 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:13 PM	4:34 AM
Thursday	5:58 PM	5:31 AM
Friday	6:43 PM	6:27 AM
Saturday	7:27 PM	7:22 AM
Sunday	8:12 PM	8:16 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7	UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily	UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily	UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily	UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily				
				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
				UA5062	2:40am	3:15am	1, 3, 5
				UA5038	10:10am	10:45am	6
				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
				UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
				UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL285	6:35am	9:10am	1, 6	DL286	8:00pm	12:35am+1	5, 7
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:30am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily	OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5	MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)				GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)				KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN			
SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7	SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	PR110/UA5072	7:35am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL172/288	7:55am	1:30am+1	Daily via NRT
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM	UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
DL287/173	6:05am	10:05pm	Daily via NRT	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:45pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5074/PR111	11:20am	4:45pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM	UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM	OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM				
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN	UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
				UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.							
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)							

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 400	17:50	18:20	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Business

Combined net worth of America's richest rises

NEW YORK (AP)—Life is good for America's super wealthy.

Forbes on Monday released its annual list of the top 400 richest Americans. While most of the top names and rankings didn't change from a year ago, the majority of the elite club's members saw their fortunes grow over the past year, helped by strong stock and real estate markets.

"Basically, the mega rich are mega richer," said Forbes Senior Editor Kerry Dolan.

Dolan noted that list's minimum net income increased to a pre-financial crisis level of \$1.3 billion, up from \$1.1 billion in 2012, with 61 American billionaires not making the cut. "In some

ways, it's harder to get on the list than it ever has been," she said.

Microsoft Corp. co-founder Bill Gates remains America's richest man, taking the top spot on the list for the 20th straight year, with a net worth of \$72 billion, up from \$66 billion a year ago.

Investor Warren Buffett, the head of Berkshire Hathaway Inc., posted another distant second place finish with \$58.5 billion, but increased his net worth from \$46 billion. Oracle Corp. co-founder Larry Ellison stayed third with \$41 billion and was the only member of the top 10 whose net worth was unchanged from a year ago.

Brothers Charles and David

Koch, co-owners of Koch Industries Inc., stay tied for fourth with \$36 billion each, up from \$31 billion in 2012.

Wal-Mart heirs Christy Walton, Jim Walton, Alice Walton and S. Robson Walton took the next four spots, with holdings ranging from \$33.3 billion to \$35.4 billion, all increasing from year-ago levels. New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, the founder of the eponymous financial information company, rounds out the top 10 with \$31 billion, up from \$25 billion.

According to Forbes, 273 members of the list are self-made billionaires, while 71 inherited their wealth and another

56 inherited at least some of it but are still growing it.

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg returned to the list's top 20 after dropping out the year before. His net worth of \$19 billion earned him the No. 20 spot.

Facebook co-founder Dustin Moskovitz also made the list, at No. 85, with a net worth of \$5.2 billion. At age 29 and just a few days younger than the Zuckerberg, Moskovitz ranks as the youngest member of the list.

On the flip side, the oldest person on the list is 98-year-old David Rockefeller Sr. at No. 193

with a net worth of \$2.8 billion.

A total of 20 new people joined the rankings, including Richard Yuengling Jr. of Pennsylvania beer maker D.G. Yuengling & Son, who ranked at No. 371 with \$1.4 billion.

Twenty-eight people dropped off the list, including six who died. Those now falling short of the cut include energy tycoon T. Boone Pickens at \$950 million, Graham Weston of Rackspace Hosting Inc. at \$920 million and Washington Redskins owner Dan Snyder at \$1.2 billion.

A total of 48 women made the

list including Hyatt Hotels heir Jennifer Pritzker at No. 327. Formerly known as James Pritzker, she's the list's first transgender member.

According to Forbes, the 400 people on the annual list posted a combined net worth of \$2 trillion, up from \$1.7 trillion a year ago. That marks their highest combined value ever.

Meanwhile, the average net worth of the list's members rose to \$5 billion, also the highest ever, up from \$4.2 billion in 2012. Net worth grew for 314 members and fell for 30, Forbes said.

The increases aren't surprising, given that net worth for America's wealthiest people has risen in the years since the financial crisis, widening the gap between the exceptionally well-to-do and the rest of the country.

According to a study of Internal Revenue Service figures released last week, the top 1 percent of U.S. earners collected 19.3 percent of household income in 2012, their largest share in IRS figures going back a century.

U.S. income inequality has been growing for almost three decades. But until last year, the top 1 percent's share of pre-tax income had not yet surpassed the 18.7 percent it reached in 1927, according to the analysis done by economists at the University of California, Berkeley, the Paris School of Economics and Oxford University.

Some economists have speculated that the incomes of the wealthy might have surged in the past year, because they cashed in stock holdings to avoid higher capital gains taxes that kicked in in January.

Employment gap between rich, poor widest on record

WASHINGTON (AP)—The gap in employment rates between America's highest- and lowest-income families has stretched to its widest levels since officials began tracking the data a decade ago, according to an analysis of government data conducted for The Associated Press.

Rates of unemployment for the lowest-income families—those earning less than \$20,000—have topped 21 percent, nearly matching the rate for all workers during the 1930s Great Depression.

U.S. households with income of more than \$150,000 a year have an unemployment rate of 3.2 percent, a level traditionally defined as full employment. At the same time, middle-income workers are increasingly pushed into low-

er-wage jobs. Many of them in turn are displacing lower-skilled, low-income workers, who become unemployed or are forced to work fewer hours, the analysis shows.

"This was no 'equal opportunity' recession or an 'equal opportunity' recovery," said Andrew Sum, director of the Center for Labor Market Studies at Northeastern University. "One part of America is in depression, while another part is in full employment."

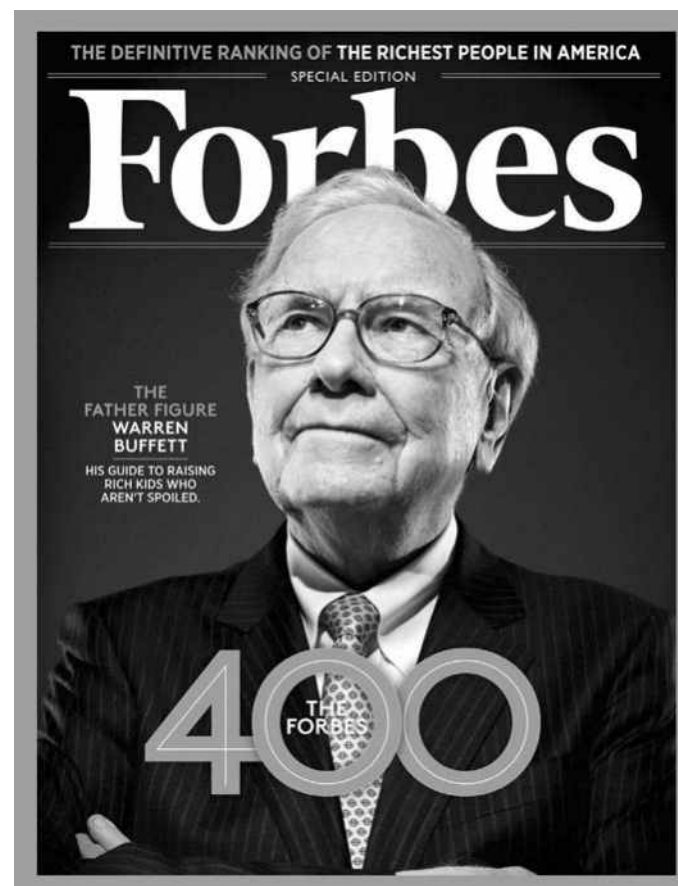
The findings follow the government's tepid jobs report this month that showed a steep decline in the share of Americans working or looking for work. On Monday, President Barack Obama stressed the need to address widening inequality after decades of a "winner-take-all" economy, where a few do better

and better and better, while everybody else just treads water or loses ground."

"We have to make the investments necessary to attract good jobs that pay good wages and offer high standards of living," he said.

While the link between income and joblessness may seem apparent, the data are the first to establish how this factor has contributed to the erosion of the middle class, a traditional strength of the U.S. economy.

Based on employment-to-population ratios, which are seen as a reliable gauge of the labor market, the employment disparity between rich and poor households remains at the highest levels in more than a decade, the period for which comparable data are available.



Warren Buffett, shown here on the cover of the *Forbes* magazine, ranks No. 2 again and was the year's biggest dollar gainer, having added \$12.5 billion to his fortune.

GM working on 200-mile electric car, exec says

WARREN, Mich. (AP)—As automakers race to make cheaper electric cars with greater battery range, General Motors is working on one that can go 200 miles per charge at a cost of about \$30,000, a top company executive said.

Vice President of Global Product Development Doug Parks wouldn't say when or if such a car will be built, however.

Currently GM sells the \$35,000 Chevrolet Volt plug-in hybrid, which can go 38 miles on electricity before a gas-powered generator kicks in. It also offers the all-electric Chevy Spark subcompact that can go 82 miles on a charge. It

starts at \$26,685. Electric cars are eligible for a \$7,500 federal tax credit.

The 200-mile car would cost about the same as the current Volt, and it would match the range and be far cheaper than Tesla Motors' \$71,000, all-electric Model S. The Model S can go up to 265 miles on a single charge.

A moderately priced electric car with a 200-mile range would make electric cars more appealing to Americans, solving the two chief complaints about such cars: Anxiety over running out of power and high price, said Tom Libby, lead North American analyst for the Polk automotive research firm.

"That would be a huge step forward, no question," he said.

Currently, cars powered solely by batteries make up only 0.3 percent of U.S. sales, Libby said, but he's confident that would increase if an automaker came out with a moderately priced 200-mile car.

Tesla gets accolades for the Model S, including the highest test score ever recorded by Consumer Reports magazine. And the Palo Alto, Calif., company also is working on a mass-market electric car. CEO Elon Musk has said it will have around a 200-mile range and cost about \$35,000. It could go on sales as early as the end of 2016, he has said.

In budget faceoff, Obama warns of 'economic chaos'

WASHINGTON (AP)—A potential federal shutdown looming, President Barack Obama on Monday warned congressional Republicans they could trigger national "economic chaos" if they demand a delay of his health care law as the price for supporting continued spending for federal operations.



Obama

House Republican leaders were to meet Tuesday in hopes of finding a formula that would avoid a shutdown on Oct. 1 without alienating

party conservatives who insist on votes to undercut the Affordable Care Act. Even more daunting is a mid- to late-October deadline for raising the nation's borrowing limit, which some Republicans also want to use as leverage against the Obama administration.

"Are some of these folks really so beholden to one extreme wing of their party that they're willing to tank the entire economy just because they can't get their way on this issue?" Obama

said in a speech at the White House. "Are they really willing to hurt people just to score political points?"

The Republicans don't see it that way.

House Speaker John Boehner, who opposes the threat of a shutdown, said, "It's a shame that the president could not manage to rise above partisanship today." Obama, said Boehner, "should be working in a bipartisan way to address America's spending problem, the way presidents of both parties have done before," and should delay implementation of the health care law.



LEADING INDICATORS

DOW

15,494.78

+118.72

+0.77%

S&P

1,697.60

+9.61

+0.57%

NASDAQ

3,717.85

-4.34

-0.12%

In U.S. dollar terms

EXCHANGE RATES

Australian Dollar

1.073

British Pound

0.6285

Canadian Dollar

1.0326

Chinese Yuan

6.1199

Euro

0.7493

Hong Kong Dollar

7.7538

Indian Rupee

63.5196

Indonesian Rupiah

11363.8

Japanese Yen

99.1051

Malaysian Ringgit

3.2536

New Zealand Dollar

1.223

Philippine Peso

43.7656

Singapore Dollar

1.2622

South Korean Won

1084.59

Swiss Franc

0.9261

Taiwan Dollar

29.6415

Thailand Baht

31.8068

Nation

13 killed in Washington Navy Yard shooting rampage

WASHINGTON (AP)—The deadly attack at the Washington Navy Yard was carried out by one of the military's own: a defense contract employee and former Navy reservist who used a valid pass to get onto the installation and started firing inside a building, killing 12 people before he was slain in a gun battle with police.

The motive for the mass shooting—the deadliest on a military installation in the U.S. since the tragedy at Fort Hood, Texas, in 2009—was a mystery, investigators said. But a profile of the lone gunman, a 34-year-old Aaron Alexis, was coming into focus. He was described as a Buddhist who had also had flares of rage, complained about

the Navy and being a victim of discrimination and had several run-ins with law enforcement, including two shootings.

Monday's onslaught at a single building at the highly secure Navy Yard unfolded about 8:20 a.m. in the heart of the nation's capital, less than four miles from the White House and two miles from the Capitol.

It put all of Washington on edge. Mayor Vincent Gray said there was no indication it was a terrorist attack, but he added that the possibility had not been ruled out.

"This is a horrific tragedy," he said.

Alexis carried three weapons: an AR-15 assault rifle, a shotgun, and a handgun that

he took from a police officer at the scene, according to two federal law enforcement officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the investigation.

For much of the day, authorities said they were looking for a possible second attacker who may have been disguised in an olive-drab military-style uniform. But by late Monday night, they said they were convinced the shooting was the work of a lone gunman, and the lockdown around the area was eased.

"We do now feel comfortable that we have the single and sole person responsible for the loss of life inside the base today," Washington police Chief Cathy

Lanier said.

President Barack Obama lamented yet another mass shooting in the U.S. that he said took the lives of American "patriots." He promised to make sure

"whoever carried out this cowardly act is held responsible."

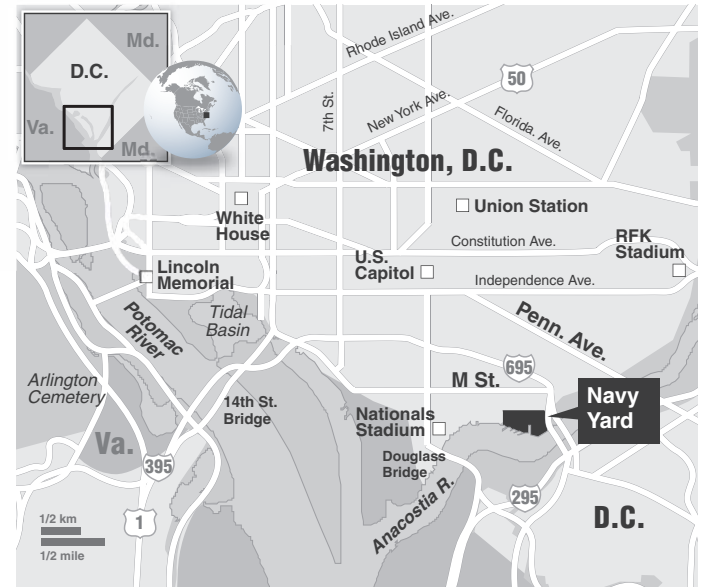
The FBI took charge of the investigation.

The attack came four years after Army psychiatrist Maj.

Nidal Hasan killed 13 people at Fort Hood in what he said was an effort to save the lives of Muslims overseas. He was convicted last month and sentenced to death.

Mass shooting at Washington Navy Yard

Washington, D.C. police say a gunman, identified as Aaron Alexis, killed at least 12 people at the Washington Navy Yard Monday morning. The U.S. Navy said shots were fired around 8:20 a.m. (ET) at the Naval Sea Systems Command Headquarters building, where about 3,000 people work. Alexis, pictured below, was killed on the scene.



AP

Emergency personnel respond to a reported shooting at the Washington Navy Yard, Monday, Sept. 16, 2013 in Washington.

Gunman in Navy Yard shooting was in Navy Reserves

By DAVID CRARY
AP NATIONAL WRITER

Aaron Alexis seems a study in contradictions: a former Navy reservist, a Defense Department contractor, a convert to Buddhism who was taking an online course in aeronautics. But he also had flashes of temper that led to run-ins with police over shootings in Fort Worth, Texas, and Seattle.

A profile began to emerge Monday of the man authorities identified as the gunman in a mass shooting at the Navy Yard in Washington, D.C., that left 13 people dead, including the 34-year-old man. While some neighbors and acquaintances described him as "nice," his father once told detectives in Seattle that his son had anger management problems related to post-traumatic stress brought on by the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

At the time of the shootings, he worked for The Experts, a subcontractor on an

HP Enterprise Services contract to refresh equipment used on the Navy Marine Corps Intranet network.

His life over the past decade has been checkered.

Alexis lived in Seattle in 2004 and 2005, according to public documents. In 2004, Seattle police said, Alexis was arrested for shooting out the tires of another man's vehicle in what he later described to detectives as an anger-fueled "blackout." According to an account on the department's website, two construction workers had parked their Honda Accord in the driveway of their worksite, next to a home where Alexis was staying. The workers reported seeing a man, later identified by police as Alexis, walk out of the home next to their worksite, pull a gun from his waistband and fire three shots into the rear tires of their Honda before he walked slowly back to his home.

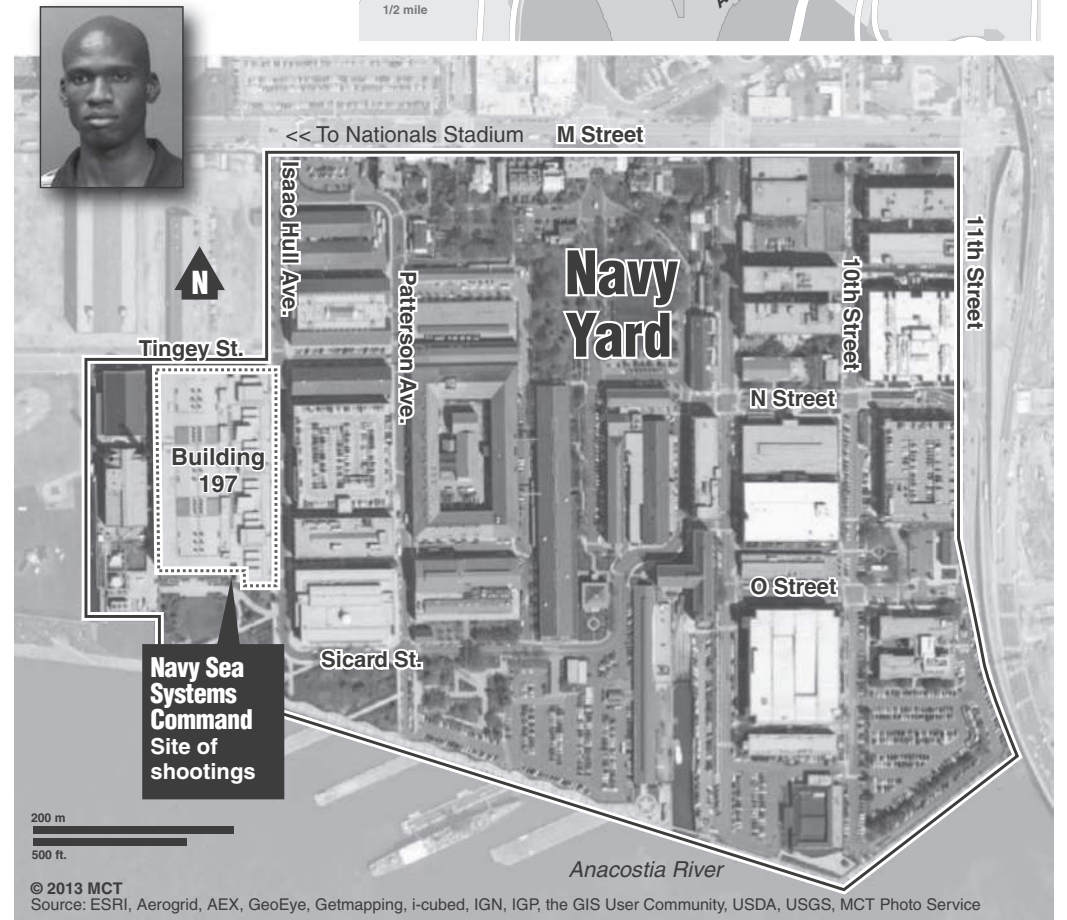
When detectives inter-

viewed workers at the construction site, they told police Alexis had stared at construction workers at the job site daily for several weeks prior to the shooting. The owner of the construction business told police he believed Alexis was angry over the parking situation around the site.

Police eventually arrested Alexis, searched his home, found a gun and ammunition in his room, and booked him into the King County Jail for malicious mischief.

According to the police account, Alexis told detectives he perceived he had been "mocked" by construction workers the morning of the incident. Alexis also claimed he had an anger-fueled "blackout," and could not remember firing his gun at the Honda until an hour after the incident.

Alexis also told police he was present during "the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001" and described "how those events had disturbed him."



Mom charged in slayings of daughter, autistic son

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP)—A mother involved in a contentious custody case was charged Monday with killing her 13-year-old autistic son and 9-year-old daughter in California after a judge ordered them returned to their father in Georgia.

Authorities weren't releasing many details, but one of the special circumstances filed by prosecutors against 42-year-old Marilyn Edge alleges the children were poisoned.

Edge, of Scottsdale, Ariz., is charged with two counts of murder with special circumstances in the deaths of her daughter Faith and son Jaelen. The children were found Saturday in a Santa Ana hotel room.

Edge lost custody of them on Wednesday in a Georgia case then texted her ex-husband, Mark Edge, two days later that she would bring the children

back on Sunday, his attorney Marian Weeks said.

Mark Edge was informed about the death of the children early Sunday by Atlanta police and was taken to a hospital for duress.

"He's emotionally, extremely distressed," Weeks said. "He is getting better. His whole focus right now is on the children."

Marilyn Edge could be eligible for the death penalty if convicted. She is expected to be arraigned Tuesday.

She was driving a car that crashed Saturday into an electrical box outside a shopping complex in Costa Mesa. She refused to get out of the car and tried to choke herself with an electrical cord as rescuers attempted to free her, Santa Ana police Cpl. Anthony Bertagna said.

Police found propane in the car but wouldn't say whether

there was a suicide note.

Authorities said Edge told investigators they could find her children's bodies at the hotel.

The Edges were married for less than 10 years and divorced in December 2007, Weeks said. Marilyn Edge claimed her former husband, who routinely traveled to Afghanistan where he worked as a contractor, failed to make child support payments, according to court records.

She also claimed the children of a friend of her ex-husband were sexually abusing her kids, but the allegations were never proven, Weeks said.

Marilyn Edge was given full custody of her children in October 2009, a ruling that was later set aside after Mark Edge contended he wasn't aware of a court hearing because he was overseas and documents were sent to a wrong address.

Asia

Philippines files graft cases against lawmakers

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine Justice Department filed the first major corruption complaints against three powerful senators, former lawmakers and a wealthy businesswoman Monday following a public outcry over the alleged plunder of millions of dollars intended for anti-poverty projects.

Justice Secretary Leila de Lima said the complaints against the lawmakers, including veteran Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, alleged that they conspired with dummy aid organizations to steal millions of dollars in government funds that should have been used for agriculture and livelihood projects that the lawmakers had designated as recipients for the funds.

The alleged kickbacks were part of \$141 million transferred from 2007 to 2009 to dozens of questionable non-govern-

ment organizations, including those put up by businesswoman Janet Lim Napoles, according to a government audit that was part of the evidence used against the lawmakers.

Thirty-eight people were named as respondents in Monday's complaints, including staffers of the lawmakers, but de Lima said more people will be charged. The recommended charges range from plunder—a non-bailable crime—to misuse of public funds, bribery and graft.

There was so much documentary evidence that justice officials used a truck to haul the papers to the Office of the Ombudsman, or the anti-graft prosecutor, in a convoy of vehicles that was trailed by the media and beamed live on nationwide TV.

The prosecutor will evaluate the evidence before forwarding the case to an anti-graft court, which will decide whether to issue arrest warrants.

Filipino troops retake most rebel-held villages

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine troops have recaptured 70 percent of the coastal areas of a southern city that were occupied by Muslim rebels and rescued 116 of more than 100 civilians held hostage in a nine-day standoff, the military said Tuesday.

About 64 hostages were freed or escaped during military operations early Tuesday, followed by another 14 who walked to freedom in separate batches. That brought to 116 the number of those rescued in the last 18 hours, said military spokesman spokesman Lt. Col. Ramon Zagala.

He said more than 100 Moro National Liberation Front rebels were still holding other hostages in the remaining pockets they controlled in five coastal villages in Zamboanga city. The government initially estimated more than 180 people were being held by the rebels, but Zagala said the exact number was unclear.

"Until we finish the clearing operations, that's the only time we get a clearer picture. But what's important for us now is we should save as many lives as we can," he said.

Three soldiers were killed and 10 wounded Tuesday in the latest fighting in Zamboanga city, which followed a day of military airstrikes on rebel positions. That brings the death toll on the government side to 12—nine soldiers and three police.

Troops and special police forces have killed or arrested more than 100 rebels who occupied the coastal areas after government forces foiled what officials said was an attempt by the heavily armed insurgents to take control of city hall on Sept. 8.

Seven civilians have been

killed in the fighting.

Troops have tried to contain the clashes on the outskirts of Zamboanga, a largely Christian city of nearly 1 million people, but suspected rebel mortar fire destroyed a car near the city's downtown area Monday, raising fears the gunmen were attempting to divert the military's attention.

Nearly 82,000 residents have fled the fighting into several emergency shelters, including the city's main sports complex.

Interior Secretary Mar Roxas said about 850 houses had been destroyed amid fierce exchanges of gunfire and occasional bursts of mortar rounds and grenades. Police said some fires may have been deliberately set by rebels to cover their escapes.

President Benigno Aquino III is in Zamboanga, a bustling port 860 kilometers (540 miles) south of Manila, to oversee the handling of the worst security crisis his administration has faced since he came to power in 2010.

The Moro insurgents, led by Nur Misuari, signed a peace deal in 1996, but the guerrillas did not lay down their arms and later accused the government of renegeing on a promise to develop long-neglected Muslim regions in the south of the predominantly Roman Catholic nation.

The rebels have become increasingly restive in recent months as they've been overshadowed by a rival rebel group that engaged Aquino's government in peace talks brokered by Malaysia. The talks have steadily progressed toward a new and potentially larger autonomy deal for minority Muslims in the south.



Principal witness Benhur Luy, left in bulletproof vest, is sworn by Julieta Calderon, Graft Investigation and Prosecution Officer II, as they submit papers at the Office of the Ombudsman, or the anti-graft prosecutor with Justice Secretary Leila De Lima, second from right, and Ombudsman Conchita Carpio Morales in suburban Quezon city, north of Manila, Philippines on Monday, Sept. 16, 2013.

sue arrest warrants.

The scandal caused such an uproar in the impoverished nation that hundreds of thousands of people turned up at a huge protest in Manila last month.

At the center of it is Napoles, who is accused of acting as a conduit for the money and a mastermind of the scam. She surrendered to President Benigno Aquino III in August after she was charged with illegal detention of a whistle-blower.

"This is a cleansing process," said Senate President

Franklin Drilon.

One of the respondents, Sen. Jinggoy Estrada, who is a son of an ousted president, told his colleagues Monday that he was innocent. He said that Enrile, at 89 the oldest senator, was taken to a hospital over the weekend for high blood pressure but that he would challenge the charges in court.

The complaint has recommended the plunder charges be laid against Enrile, Estrada, Senator Ramon Revilla Jr. and two former members of the House

of Representatives for allegedly pocketing more than 50 million pesos (\$1.4 million) each.

Enrile said in a statement that the complaint was filed after an incomplete investigation.

"Let me make clear that I am innocent of the charges filed against me," he said.

Three other former House members are being accused of misuse of public funds, bribery and other corrupt practices for receiving less than 50 million pesos each. Napoles is named co-conspirator for both the

plunder and the misuse of public funds charges.

A summary of the complaint said the scam starts with an agreement between a lawmaker and Napoles to designate her NGOs as recipients of special development funds that each member can allocate. The lawmaker allegedly then got 40 to 60 percent of the project's cash value as a kickback, while Napoles gave 10 percent to the head of the government agency implementing the project and pocketed the rest after deducting the cost of overpriced supplies.

More than 6,200 flee as Indonesian volcano erupts



Principal witness Benhur Luy, left in bulletproof vest, is sworn by Julieta Calderon, Graft Investigation and Prosecution Officer II, as they submit papers at the Office of the Ombudsman, or the anti-graft prosecutor with Justice Secretary Leila De Lima, second from right, and Ombudsman Conchita Carpio Morales in suburban Quezon city, north of Manila, Philippines on Monday, Sept. 16, 2013.

MEDAN, Indonesia (AP)—More than 6,200 people were evacuated from their villages following the eruption of Mount Sinabung in western Indonesia, an official said Monday.

The 2,600-meter (8,530-foot) volcano in North Sumatra province erupted early Sunday after being dormant for three years,

sending thick ash into the sky with small rocks pelting neighboring villages.

National Disaster Mitigation Agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho said a total of 6,259 people have been evacuated as of Monday afternoon, and were being sheltered in eight locations. No damage

was reported.

The official Antara news agency reported that five people were hospitalized in Kabanjahe, the capital of Karo District. It quoted Jhonson Tarigan, a spokesman of the local disaster mitigation agency, as saying the five were having difficulty breathing af-

ter inhaling volcanic ash.

Most of the displaced were from six villages within 3 kilometers (several miles) of the mountain in Karo district, Nugroho said.

Local authorities prepared 2,000 blankets and distributed masks to displaced people. They also have set up a health command post, Nugroho said. He added there was an urgent need for cooking ware, food for babies and medicine.

On Monday, gray smoke still billowed from the peak of North Sumatra's tallest volcano, carrying ash eastward. Authorities asked residents to remain alert for other potential eruptions.

Mount Sinabung's last eruption in August 2010 killed two people and forced 30,000 others to flee. It caught many scientists off guard because they had failed to monitor the volcano, which had remained quiet for four centuries.

There are more than 129 active volcanoes in Indonesia, the world's largest archipelago nation. It is prone to seismic upheaval due to its location on the so-called "Ring of Fire"—a series of fault lines stretching from the Western Hemisphere through Japan and Southeast Asia.

World

UN confirms chemical weapons used in Syria

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Careful not to blame either side for a deadly chemical weapon attack, U.N. inspectors reported Monday that rockets loaded with the nerve agent sarin had been fired from an area where Syria's military has bases, but said the evidence could have been manipulated in the rebel-controlled stricken neighborhoods.

The U.S., Britain and France jumped on evidence in the report—especially the type of rockets, the composition of the sarin agent, and trajectory of the missiles—to declare that President Bashar Assad's government was responsible.

Russia, Syria's closest ally, called the investigators' findings "deeply disturbing," but said it was too early to draw conclusions. The Syrian government's claims that opposition forces were responsible for the attack "cannot be simply shrugged off," Russian Ambassador Vitaly Churkin insisted.

The conclusions represented the first official confirmation by impartial scientific experts that chemical weapons were used in Syria's civil war, but the inspectors' limited mandate barred them from identifying who was responsible for the Aug. 21 attack.

"This is a war crime," U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon told the Security Council when he presented the report. "The results are overwhelming and indisputable. The facts speak for themselves."

Ban called it "the most significant confirmed use of chemical

weapons against civilians since Saddam Hussein used them" in Halabja, Iran, in 1988, and "the worst use of weapons of mass destruction in the 21st century."

The deep division between Western backers of rebels seeking to overthrow Assad and Russian and Chinese supporters of the regime has paralyzed the U.N. Security Council since the Syrian conflict began 2 1/2 years ago.

Even though the United States and Russia agreed Saturday on the framework to put Syria's chemical weapons stockpile and precursors under international control for future destruction, their top diplomats were at odds Monday over a new Security Council resolution that would make the deal legally binding—and whether there should be a reference to possible military enforcement if Syria doesn't comply.

After months of negotiations, the U.N. inspectors went to Syria to visit the sites of three alleged chemical attacks earlier this year and were in the capital of Damascus on Aug. 21 when reports and videos began surfacing of a shelling attack in which victims experienced shortness of breath, disorientation, blurred vision, nausea, vomiting, weakness and a loss of consciousness.

They finally gained access to three towns where the Aug. 21 attack occurred, and on one occasion their convoy was hit by sniper fire, but the inspectors were nonetheless able to collect a large amount of material and talk to survivors and witnesses.

"The environmental, chemi-

cal and medical samples we have collected provide clear and convincing evidence that surface-to-surface rockets con-

taining the nerve agent sarin were used ... in the Ghouta area of Damascus," their report said. "The conclusion is that

chemical weapons have been used in the ongoing conflict between the parties in the Syrian Arab Republic, also against

civilians, including children, on a relatively large scale," they said. "This result leaves us with the deepest concern."

Shipwrecked *Concordia* hauled upright off Italy

GIGLIO ISLAND, Italy (AP)—Engineers declared success on Tuesday as the *Costa Concordia* cruise ship was pulled completely upright during a complicated, 19-hour operation to wrench it from its side where it capsized last year off Tuscany, an unprecedented feat that sets the stage for it to be towed away next year.

The submerged side of the *Concordia* suffered significant damage during 20 months bearing the weight of the ship and the operation to right it, officials said. That damage must be repaired to stabilize the ship so it can be towed and turned into scrap.

Shortly after 4 a.m., a fog-horn wailed off Giglio Island and the head of Italy's Civil Protection agency, Franco Gabrielli, announced that the ship had reached vertical and that the operation to rotate it—known in nautical terms as parbuckling—was complete.

"We completed the parbuckling operation a few minutes ago the way we thought it would happen and the way we hoped it would happen," said Franco Porcellacchia, project manager for the *Concordia*'s owner, Costa Crociere SpA.

"A perfect operation, I must say," with no environmental spill detected so far, he said.

Applause rang out among firefighters in the tent where the project engineers made the announcement. An hour later, Nick Sloane, the South African chief salvage master, received a hero's welcome as he came ashore from the barge that had served as the floating command control room for the operation.

"Brilliant! Perfetto," Sloane said, using some of the Italian he has learned over the past year on Giglio preparing for the operation. "It was a struggle, a bit of a roller coaster. But for the whole team it was fantastic."

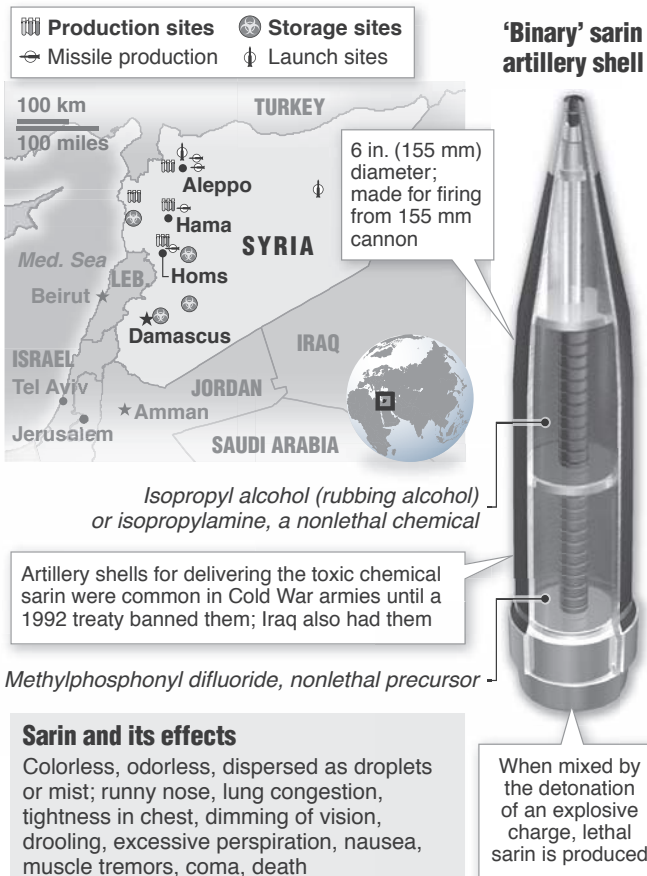
The *Concordia* slammed into a reef off Giglio Island on Jan. 13, 2012, after the captain brought it too close to shore. The cruise ship drifted, listed and capsized just off the island's port, killing 32 people. Two bodies were never recovered.



This combination of photos shows the *Costa Concordia* before, top, during, center, and after an operation was completed to lift the cruise ship to an upright position, on the Tuscan Island of Giglio, Italy.

Syria's chemical weapons

The White House said for the first time that it has some evidence that Syria has used chemical weapons in its civil war. A look at Syria's chemical weapons facilities:



Source: Center for Nonproliferation Studies, U.S. Defense Department, GlobalSecurity.com, Journal of American Medical Association, BBC
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Campus Life

ESFDB students observe 12th 9/11 anniversary

Twelve years after the attacks on the Pentagon and the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001, the day has come to mean a day of remembrance and commemoration.

In observance of 9/11, Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja students of Mrs. Mary Rose Lucero and Mr. Edward Maratita Jr. joined in a moment of silence and prayer at the San Francisco de Borja Church.

The event was organized by the STUCO officers led by its president, Angelica Lucero, to remember those who are fighting in Afghanistan, Iraq, and other parts of the world.

"We are honoring our administrator/principals' son TJ H. Atalig and our teacher Mr. Edward Maratita Jr. who are serving in the armed forces," said Lucero. "And remembering those that did the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom."

"Also, we should not only focus on 9/11 but also on the freedom that our troops give us every day," said STUCO vice president Lorraine Clitar.

STUCO secretary Tyra Reese Calvo said, "We're not remembering the bad things. We're celebrating our freedoms and the men and women who fight every day to preserve our freedoms."

"We are honoring our hero's such as Mr. Ed, TJ Atalig, and my uncle Edward Barcinas," added STUCO public relations officer Marneia Hocog. "I am proud of my two uncle Ed's [Barcinas and Maratita] for serving in the Army and protecting our freedom."

"We always need to remember how proud we should be to be Americans," said principal Carmen H. Atalig. "Patriotism comes with a pride for the nation and those who serve to protect it. I am proud of my son TJ and I support him and our country at a time of great need."

"I am proud of the STUCO officers for leading such an event," added Atalig.

"This national event has reminded us, that we cannot take anything for granted," said ESFDB board president and 7th/8th grade adviser Edward Maratita Jr. "This is important for the school children to know and understand the events and be aware of how they are shaping the nation and the region."

"Even though many of these children weren't alive when 9/11 occurred, it's important that we acknowledge it as a school and tell the children about it because it's a pivotal time in our nation and our community. It's an important lesson as we prepare students for life in the real world. The goal was to honor those who lost their lives 12 years ago, but at the same time to inspire hope for the future because today's learners are tomorrow's leaders," Maratita said.

The administration and board of directors would like to express their appreciation to the STUCO officers and the Pacific Regional Training Institute. **(Edward Maratita Jr.)**



Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja students pose in front of Sainan Ina statue while displaying the U.S. flag commemorating 9/11.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ESFDB welcomes donation of books, softballs



Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja students pose with the books donated by Jonelle and Ari Toskas.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

As another school year begins and old routines settle back into place, teachers prepare their students for another lifelong love of reading books.

Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja is fortunate to receive book donations from their students, Ari and Jonelle Toskas.

The donation will add to the variety of books available at the school, ranging from kids' stories to kids' *National Geographic*.

The Toskas siblings know that reading was an essential part of their education and wanted to share their collection of books with ESFDB students.

"I am grateful and excited for the book donations. Reading is the key to success," said ESFDB principal Carmen H. Atalig. "They say reading can help make a dramatic change in the life of a student. You are looking at a living, breathing example of ESFDB student."

The siblings are the children of Dr. James and Jocelyn Toskas.

In addition, as the school continues to strengthen its sports program, Pedro and Geraldine Dela Cruz donated softballs for the school to start with.

"It is with honor and gratitude that we receive this donation from the Dela Cruz couple," said Atalig.

"The students of ESFDB are much set on their academics part. Now, we need to engage them in the athletic part," said Physical Education coordinator Edward Maratita Jr. "At the same time, we are promoting healthy and active lifestyles for our students."

The administration would like to express their appreciation to Ari and Jonelle Toskas, Dr. James and Jocelyn Toskas, and Pedro and Geraldine Dela Cruz. **(Edward Maratita Jr.)**



Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja students show off the softballs donated by Pedro and Geraldine Dela Cruz.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Back to school—in America's national parks

Teachers across the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas have a new tool to help them engage their students in classroom and place-based learning.

The National Park Service recently launched a new online service for teachers that brings America's national parks, including American Memorial Park, into island classrooms. The new "Teachers" section of the National Park Service website at www.nps.gov/teachers provides a one-stop shop for curriculum-based lesson plans, traveling trunks, maps, activities, distance learn-

ing, and other resources. All of the materials draw from the spectacular natural landscapes and authentic places preserved in America's national parks.

» National Park Service helps teachers make learning fun & relevant

"American Memorial Park has long welcomed Saipan's students to the park for field trips," said Ron Borne, superintendent of American Memorial Park. "And now, through the new 'Teachers' National Park Service website, all 401 national parks are throwing open the doors and inviting teachers and students to learn about literature using a lesson plan from Carl Sandburg Home

National Historic Site, borrow a traveling trunk from Lava Beds National Monument, chat online with a ranger at the Grand Canyon National Park, or visit

Mt. McKinley in Denali National Park."

The site is searchable by location, keyword, and more than 125 subjects, from archeology, to biology, to constitutional law. Teachers will, for the first time, be able to rate NPS-provided content. In addition to park-created content, the site also features educational materials created by NPS national programs like the National Register of Historic Places and its award-winning *Teaching with*

Historic Places series of 147 lesson plans.

The website is just one part of the National Park Service's ongoing commitment to edu-

cation. Every year, national parks offer more than

57,000 educational programs that serve nearly 3 million students in addition to 563,000 interpretive programs attended by 12.6 million visitors. The NPS is working with partners and educational institutions to expand programs and encourage the use of parks as places of learning. The NPS has partnered with the Department of Education to integrate national park resources into core curriculums.

ON THE NET
www.nps.gov/teachers

Each summer, teachers across the country are hired to work in parks to develop curriculum-based programs based on park resources through the Teacher-Ranger-Teacher program.

To learn more about the National Park Service's education programs, visit www.nps.gov/teachers.

About the National Park Service

More than 20,000 National Park

Service employees care for America's 401 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov, visit us on Facebook www.facebook.com/nationalparkservice, Twitter www.twitter.com/natlarkservice, and YouTube www.youtube.com/nationalparkservice. (NPS)

13-year-old Indian girl begins microbiology master's degree

LUCKNOW, India (AP)—In a country where many girls are still discouraged from going to school, Sushma Verma is having anything but a typical childhood.

The 13-year-old girl from a poor family in north India has enrolled in a master's degree in microbiology, after her father sold his land to pay for some of his daughter's tuition in the hope of catapulting her into India's growing middle class.

Verma finished high school at 7 and earned an undergraduate degree at age 13—milestones she said were possible only with the sacrifices and encouragement of her uneducated and impoverished parents.

"They allowed me to do what I wanted to do," Verma said in an interview Sunday, speaking her native language of Hindi. "I hope that other parents don't impose their choices on their children."

Sushma lives a very modest life with her three younger siblings and her parents—eating, sleeping and studying alongside them in a cramped single-room apartment in Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh state.

Their only income is her father's daily wage of up to 200 rupees (less than \$3.50) for laboring on construction sites. Their most precious possessions include a study table and a second-hand computer.

It is not a great atmosphere for studying, she admitted. "There are a lot of dreams ... All of them cannot be fulfilled."

But having no television and little else at home has advantages, she said. "There is nothing to do but study."

Sushma begins her studies next week at Lucknow's B. R. Ambedkar Central University, though her father is already ferrying her to and from campus each day on his bicycle so she can meet with teachers before classes begin.

Her first choice was to become a doctor, but she cannot take the test to qualify for medical school until she is 18.

"So I opted for the MSc and then I will do a doctorate," she said.

Sushma—a skinny, poised girl with shoulder-length hair—



Verma

is not the first high-achiever in her family. Her older brother graduated from high school at 9, and in 2007 became one of India's youngest computer science graduates at 14.

In another family, Sushma might not have been able to follow him into higher education. Millions of Indian children are still not enrolled in grade school, and many of them are girls whose parents choose to hold them back in favor of advancing their sons. Some from conservative village cultures are expected only to get married, for which their families will go into debt to pay exorbitant dowry payments, even though they are illegal.

For Sushma, her father sold his only pieces of land—10,000 square feet (930 square meters) in a village in Uttar Pradesh—for the cut-rate price of 25,000 rupees (about \$400) to cover some of her school fees.

"There was opposition from my family and friends, but I did not have any option," said her father, Tej Bahadur Verma.

The rest of Sushma's school fees will come from a charity that traditionally works in improving rural sewage systems, which gave her a grant of 800,000 rupees (about \$12,600).

"The girl is an inspiration for students from elite backgrounds" who are born with everything, said Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak of Sulabh International, who decided to help after seeing a local television program on Sushma. She is also receiving financial aid from well-wishing civilians and other charities.

First Year Death Anniversary

In Loving Memory of

†**Joselyn Tara Mafnas Sablan**

Lovingly known as "Jos"

We, the family, humbly invite all of our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the passing of our dearly beloved unto eternal life.

Mass of Intentions are being offered at San Jose Church in Oleai beginning September 12 thru September 20, 2013 at 6:00AM. Except for Sunday, September 15, 2013, Mass will be offered at 7:30AM.

On the final day Friday, September 20, 2013. Mass of Intentions will be offered at 6:00AM.

Your presence, thoughts, and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase – Thank You

**Joseph & Rosa Mafnas Sablan,
Children and Family**



Life & Style

New Miss America: 'First and foremost American'

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)—Nina Davuluri isn't the first Miss America of color. She's not even the first Asian-American to wear the crown. But her victory has clearly struck a chord in some quarters.

At a news conference held after her name was announced Sunday night, the first question was about a slew of social media users apparently upset that someone of Indian heritage had won. Some tweets called her Arab and a terrorist.

"I have to rise above that," said Davuluri, who competed as Miss New York. "I always viewed myself as first and foremost American."

She said she's delighted that the nearly century-old pageant sees beauty and talent of all kinds.

"I'm so happy this organization has embraced diversity," she said. "I'm thankful there are children watching at home who can finally relate to a new Miss America."

Her pageant platform was "celebrating diversity through cultural competency." Her talent routine was a Bollywood fusion dance.

Davuluri, a 24-year-old native of Syracuse, N.Y., wants to be a doctor and is applying to medical school, with the help of a \$50,000 scholarship she won as part of the pageant title. She's the second consecutive Miss New York to win the Miss America crown, succeeding Mallory Hagan, who was selected in January.

Davuluri's grandmother said she cried when she saw the news on television.

"I am very, very happy for the girl. It was her dream, and it was fulfilled," 89-year-old Vege Koteschwaramma said by phone from her home in Vijaywada, in the southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh.

There are numerous doctors in the family, in the U.S. and India, she said, and if her granddaughter wants to become one, "I am sure she will do it."

Asked about her granddaughter appearing in a bikini, given the conservative attitudes in India, Koteschwaramma said: "I haven't seen any such thing. This must be all part of the competition."

Davuluri is the second Asian-American winner, after Angela Perez-Baraquo, who is of Filipino descent and won in 2001.

She now heads to New York City to prepare for TV talk show appearances and plans to take in Broadway musicals over the next several days.

On Tuesday, she'll see "Pippin." On Wednesday, she'll meet former Miss America and fellow Syracuse native Vanessa Williams and see "The Trip To Bountiful," in which Williams appears. Williams became the first



Miss New York Nina Davuluri poses for photographers following her crowning as Miss America 2014, Sunday, Sept. 15, 2013, in Atlantic City, N.J.

black Miss America in 1984 but resigned after Penthouse magazine published nude photographs of her.

Monday morning, Davuluri took the traditional ocean frolic dip in the surf in front of Boardwalk Hall, where she won the title hours earlier. The pageant, which originated in Atlantic City in 1921, spent the past six years in Las Vegas before returning to New Jersey.

"Welcome home, Miss America!" Davuluri said as

she stood barefoot in the shallow surf, wearing a lime green Miss America T-shirt and white shorts. "We're back in Atlantic City!"

Davuluri had planned to go to the scene of a devastating boardwalk fire in Seaside Park and Seaside Heights on Monday afternoon. But pageant officials canceled that visit after learning that Gov. Chris Christie was making cabinet officials available at that time to business owners victimized by the fire and said Davuluri will visit later.

First Year Death Anniversary

In Ever Loving Memory of
†SGT. ROBERT JASON SANTOS DELEON GUERRERO
 August 24, 1976 – September 23, 2012
 Dearly missed by his Wife, Sons, Daughter, Parents, Siblings, Family members, Friends, and Relatives.

In his 1st year of his new life, †Sgt. Robert Jason Santos Deleon Guerrero's Mass of Intention will be held every morning at 6:00 A.M. and Nightly Rosaries will be said at 7:00 P.M. at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral beginning September 15 thru September 22, 2013.

On Monday, September 23, 2013, Holy Rosary will be said at 5:30AM followed by Mass at 6:00AM at Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Your prayers and presence is humbly appreciated

**Jennifer C. Deleon Guerrero & Children,
 Mr. & Mrs. Florencio (Bobby) T. Deleon Guerrero & Family**

**JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT OF BURIAL AT SEA
 IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

†Thomas David Pinkerton
 Better known as "Tom" and "Tomas"

Tom Pinkerton was born on September 20, 1946 in Valparaiso Indiana to the late Alfred Edwin and Ayliffe Winona Pinkerton. Tom was called to eternal rest on September 10, 2013.

In college, Tom set several pitching records and was aiming toward playing professional ball before called to service in the Marine Corps in Vietnam. Tom received the Purple Heart and other awards for his service in Vietnam.

Tom then worked as a career educator. He taught in various locations in the US mainland and Palau, and then Tom came to Saipan, where he worked for several years as a probation officer at DYS and then for more than twenty five years in various capacities at PSS education the Commonwealth's youth.

Tom was a loving father. He is survived by his children, son Tomas Roberto Pinkerton, daughters Elliz Anne Pinkerton Camacho (Mike Camacho) and Emarigold Ivy Pinkerton, and also by his sister, Jackie Pinkerton Vermilyer.

We, the family of Tom Pinkerton, wish to extend our sincere thanks to the nurses and staff of Marianas Health Care Services, CHC, the Aldrich family, Evelyn Pangelinan, Tom Clifford, Bob McCausland, Dave Dougherty, Ed Tudor and the VFW. Tom will be missed by his numerous former colleagues, friends and former students.

†Tommy Lee Gibson
 Better Known as "Tom"

Tom Gibson was born on August 23, 1949 in Winfield, Kansas to the late Thomas Garland and Mildred Maudine George Gibson. Tom was called to eternal rest on September 16, 2013.

Tom received numerous decorations for his service in the Navy in Vietnam. He was a member of VA-55 flying out of Lemoore, California.

Tom spent his civilian career in various telecommunications positions in California before moving to Guam in the early 1990's where he served as Vice President of Engineering for GuamCell, before working for several years for Docomo Pacific and then retiring.

Tom Gibson is survived by his wife Chun Mei Gibson, and his son Michael Gibson and his daughter Michele in the U.S. mainland.

We, the family of Tom Gibson, wish to extend our sincere thanks to the nurses and staff of CHC, Andy Hogeboom, Roy Ortizo, Ana, Sam Petty, Dave Dougherty, Ed Tudor and the VFW, and Docomo Pacific. Tom will also be missed by his numerous former colleagues and friends.

On Friday, September 20, 2013 at 9:30 a.m., a brief service for Tom Pinkerton and Tom Gibson will be held at Smiling Cove Marina followed by burial at sea. Colleagues, family and friends are welcome to come to Smiling Cove to pay their last respects as they depart on the Landing Craft Mechanized, Mark 8 ("LCM-8") Pacific Marine 1.

Emmy host Neil Patrick Harris is magic ambassador

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Neil Patrick Harris is magical, and not just because he can sing, dance, act and host the Tony and Emmy awards. He's actually magical, like in the abracadabra way, and has been since he was a kid.

Long before he was "Doogie Howser, M.D.," Harris loved magic. Every trip to his grandparents' house in Albuquerque meant a visit to the local magic shop, where he used his allowance to add a card or coin trick to his collection, mastering the new illusion on the ride home.

These days, the 40-year-old entertainer injects magic into most everything he does. He levitates an Emmy trophy in advertisements for Sunday's big show, which he's hosting for the second time. His "How I Met Your Mother" character, Barney, dabbles in magic. And Harris often does magic tricks on talk shows.

He also makes countless hours of his free time disappear as leader of the Academy of Magical Arts, which is headquartered at the famed Magic Castle on a hill overlooking Hollywood.

"If magicians and magic work well, it really amazes people at a core level, and that level stays with them for a long, long time," Harris said in a recent interview, sitting in one of the Magic Castle's many theaters. "You can talk to almost anyone and ask them to recount when they saw a magic trick and they get that giddy expression... I like knowing that the end result is that reaction."

Harris knows the historic, Victorian-style Magic Castle like a favorite trick—the winding corridors and staircases as familiar to him as the "How I Met Your Mother" set. He greets staff members by name, fiddles with temperamental switches himself and feels proud of the place's progress under his leadership.

Rocker to stand trial on charge of hiring hitman

VISTA, Calif. (AP)—The frontman of the Grammy-nominated metal band As I Lay Dying will stand trial on a charge of trying to hire someone to kill his estranged wife, a judge in San Diego ruled Monday.

The decision came after a preliminary hearing for Timothy Lambesis that featured several hours of testimony by prosecution witnesses, including an undercover officer who said he posed as a hitman named "Red" and met with the singer.

San Diego County sheriff's Officer Howard Bradley testified that Lambesis met him at a book store in May in Oceanside and told him he wanted his wife "gone."

Bradley told the court he asked Lambesis directly if he wanted his wife killed, and the singer replied, "Yes, I do."

Lambesis said his wife, Meggan Lambesis, had restricted his visits with their three adopted

In this photo taken on Tuesday, Sept 10, 2013, Neil Patrick Harris poses for a portrait at the Magic Castle on in Los Angeles.

AP



Emmys to honor Gandolfini, Monteith, 3 others

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Emmy Awards will feature five special memorial tributes, including one to "Glee" star Cory Monteith, organizers said.

Monteith died in July at age 31 of a heroin and alcohol overdose. He will be remembered by the show's Jane Lynch.

Now in his second term as magic academy president, Harris doesn't just promote the art and appreciation of magic, he basically runs the business of the Magic Castle, attending regular board meetings and handling occasional "angry emails from magic people." It takes some sleight of hand to juggle those responsibilities among the half-dozen other jobs he has, in-

cluding voicing a Pixar film, directing a play, starring in David Fincher's adaptation of "Gone Girl," preparing for a starring run on Broadway, wrapping up the final season of "How I Met Your Mother" and oh yes, producing and hosting this year's Emmy ceremony.

Other tributes during the Sunday event will see Rob Reiner honoring "All in the Family Star" Jean Stapleton; Robin Williams remember-

ing his friend and mentor Jonathan Winters; and Michael J. Fox honoring "Family Ties" producer Gary David Goldberg.

The ceremony on CBS also will include the traditional "in memoriam" segment recognizing other industry members who have died.

dar that keeps his team, fiance David Burtka and their nearly 3-year-old twins on top of their schedules.

With the Emmys just a few days away, Harris is harried. He's been hands-on in helping put the ceremony together, said executive producer Ken Ehrlich.

"This is one guy whose title of producer isn't just a vanity title," Ehrlich said, lauding the

entertainer's instincts "both to what makes a terrific live television show as well as to what makes a great TV show for people to watch at home."

Harris's production skills are actually award-worthy: He won an Emmy at Sunday night's Creative Arts ceremony as executive producer of last year's Tony Awards.

A host of the main Emmy show, Harris says he won't

'Revolution,' UN spotlight global energy crisis

NEW YORK (AP)—The cast and crew of J.J. Abrams' post-apocalyptic drama "Revolution" are kicking off season two at the United Nations to discuss the basis of the show: what happens to people when the power goes off.

Show runner Eric Kripke and stars Billy Burke, Giancarlo Esposito and Tracy Spiridakos are sitting down with officials at the U.N. Tuesday to talk about the plight of the one-fifth of the world's population that lives without electricity.

The event was sparked by two U.N. Undersecretaries General—fans of "Revolution"—who reached out to Abrams' Bad Robot production house and said they could use some help shining a light on the global energy crisis.

"When J.J. and I were cooking up 'Revolution' we really talked a lot about how we are this technology-dependent society and if you remove that infrastructure, much of a society would collapse as a result of something so simple and basic—and 'Revolution' is basically about that at its core underneath all the action and sword swinging," Kripke said. He said the U.N. outreach was "surreal."

Rebecca Goldman, director of Good Robot, Bad Robot's philanthropic arm, says the U.N. foundation's focus on energy access seemed like a perfect match. The show's writers will

sing and dance—at least not as an opening or closing number. Both he and Ehrlich say they hope something unexpected will liven up the ceremony.

"Maybe I hope someone's really drunk and wins," Harris deadpanned. "I'm hoping someone brings in a flask unattended, has some sort of problem, actual problem maybe, and we get to watch that downward spiral in front of millions. That, for me, is Emmy magic."

"So, Bryan Cranston, tick tock."

Harris won't say whether he'll perform any tricks during the ceremony, but promises "a lot of exciting things that have never happened before," including a musical tribute to Liberace by Elton John.

Though Harris hosted the Emmys in 2009 and has taken on the Tonys four times, he acknowledges some nerves leading into this Sunday's show.

"If you ask me, two days before the Emmys, everything's locked. We know what the jokes are. I'm like Confident Johnny: Woo-wee it's gonna be a good show. I'm gonna whip my thing out. It's going to be funny," he said, his showman's smile revealing the slightest hint of anxiety. "But right now, I'm so concerned about what my thing's going to look like and no jokes are set, so it's a little bit panic mode right now."

Maybe it's time to pull out that magic wand.

children after they were separated in September, Bradley recalled, adding he was also angry because she was going to get a chunk of his income in a divorce settlement.

Bradley said Lambesis told him at the end of their meeting, "'just to clarify, just so you know, I do want her dead.'"

The officer said the singer then gave him a manila envelope containing his wife's name, photo, security code to her condo complex, description of her vehicle and \$1,000. Lambesis also wrote down three dates that would be best for carrying out the hit because he would be with his children and have an alibi, Bradley testified.

He said they agreed to set the total price at \$20,000. Officers then arrested Lambesis.

Lambesis has pleaded not guilty to solicitation for murder. If convicted, he could face up to nine years in prison. San Diego Superior Court Judge Robert Kearney set his arraignment for Oct. 22 at the courthouse in Vista.

Sheriff's Officer John Buckley also testified during the hearing, telling the court that he initiated the investigation after receiving a report that Lambesis had asked a personal trainer at his gym to help him get rid of his wife.

After talking to the gym acquaintance, authorities arranged for the man to set up a meeting between Lambesis and Bradley.

Defense attorney Thomas Warwick did not present any arguments during the hearing. He previously said his client had

been using steroids for body building and the drugs had a devastating effect on his mind.

Lambesis has been free on \$2 million bail since May and wearing a GPS monitor. The conditions will continue until he is arraigned, Kearney ruled.

The singer also has been ordered to stay home and not contact Meggan Lambesis and their three children, who were adopted from Ethiopia.

As I Lay Dying formed in San Diego in 2000 and has released six albums, including 2007's "An Ocean Between Us," which reached No. 8 on Billboard's charts. A single from the album, "Nothing Left," was nominated for a Grammy for top metal performance.

The band plays in an aggressive style that features lightning-speed metal guitar riffs. The group's philosophical lyrics have attracted a following of Christian rock fans.



Lambesis

Sandra Bullock tells Vogue she doesn't look back

NEW YORK (AP)—It's been three years since Sandra Bullock split from her husband Jesse James but she has no desire to go backward and examine what happened, especially not publicly.

Days after Bullock won the Best Actress Oscar for "The Blind Side," tabloids reported James had cheated on her.

She reacted swiftly, by going under the radar and filing for divorce.

Now she tells Vogue, "We're all where we're supposed to be" and "I'm grateful that I'm here, blessed to have what I have."

What Bullock has is a three-year-old son named Louis who she adopted in January 2010, in the middle of awards season. She managed to keep him a secret for the first few months of his life.

Vogue's Oct. issue goes on sale Sept. 24.

This magazine cover image shot by Peter Lindbergh and released by Vogue shows actress Sandra Bullock on the cover of the October 2013 issue.

AP

Moore tells daughter it takes help to get made up

NEW YORK (AP)—Julianne Moore is known for her milky white skin and striking red hair but the actress says her "camera ready" look is much different than when she's off the clock.

In fact, the 52-year-old tells In Style magazine that her friends tease her for wearing mostly yoga clothes when she's not working.

She also says her 11-year-old daughter Liv recently saw a photo of her and proclaimed, "Mom, you don't look like that!"

The actress says she explained to her daughter it was "the result of all these people working together."

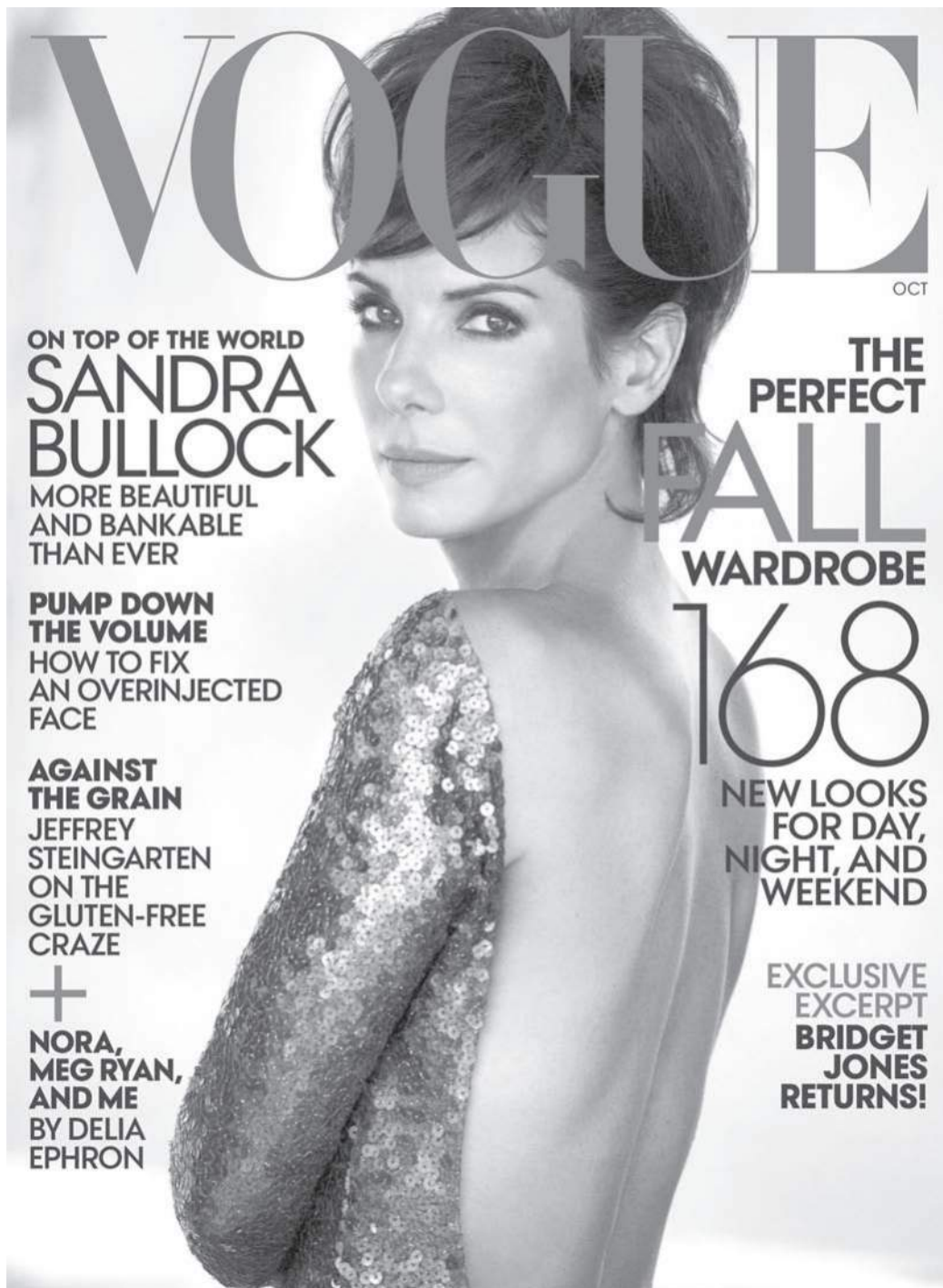
Moore says she appreciates the way a glam squad can make her look "so much better" but it "takes too much time."

The Oct. issue of In Style goes on sale Sept. 20.



AP

This magazine cover image released by InStyle shows actress Julianne Moore on the cover of the October 2013 issue.



McAfee: Collins most 'dangerous' celeb search

NEW YORK (AP)—If you're curious about Lily Collins and head to the Internet to find out, beware—McAfee has ranked the actress as the most dangerous celeb to search for online.

Collins—who starred in movies such as "Mirror, Mirror" and "The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones"—posed the biggest risk of landing on a malicious site, according to the computer security company; last year Emma Watson topped the list.

Female celebrities were the overwhelming lure to malware; Avril Lavigne, Sandra Bullock, Kathy Griffin and Zoe Saldana rounded out the top five; "Mad Men" star Jon Hamm was the only man in the top 10.

A person could be led to malware after doing a general search and clicking on dubious links, but risks increased when searchers added phrases like "free apps" or "nude photos."

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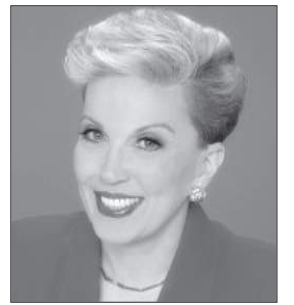
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Girl can conquer shyness by reaching out to others

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 14-year-old girl who just started high school. I started to notice boys when I was in middle school, and I'd like to start dating soon.



Dear Abby

The problem is I've never had a close friend who was a boy, and the idea isn't natural to me. How can I ask a boy out if I don't even grasp the concept of being friends with one? I'm frustrated over this, especially because I really like one particular guy.

The only advice I have been given is, "Get over your fear and just TALK to him." This isn't very helpful to me. I want to know how to get over my fear! Abby, your thoughts would be appreciated.

CAN'T FIND THE NERVE IN OHIO

DEAR CAN'T FIND THE NERVE: I'll gladly share some thoughts. The first is I hope you realize how many girls and guys your age feel EXACTLY the same way you do. Social skills don't come naturally to everyone—but they can be learned. And like any learned skill, they take practice.

The surest cure for shyness—which is the "fear" you are experiencing—is to forget about yourself and concentrate on the other person. Smile and introduce yourself if the guy doesn't know you. If you share a class with him or know an activity he's involved in, ask a question about it. He's not good at sports? Not musical? Ask him about a class assignment.

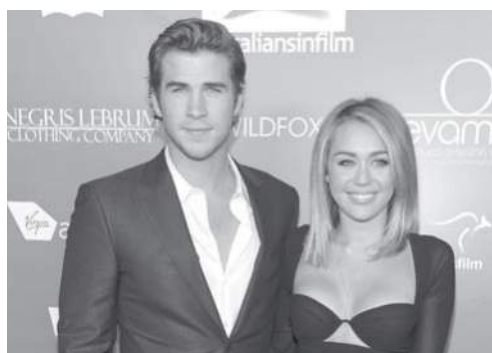
You don't have to be brilliant or witty. Try leading off with a friendly remark or a compliment. ("Nice shirt, cellphone," etc.) I know very few people who don't appreciate a compliment. Overcoming shyness takes practice, so don't go after the boy you "really like" at first. Make a point of smiling and saying hello to everyone. It's friendly, it's welcoming.

Keep in mind that the majority of people have the same insecurities you do. Many of them will respond positively because they appreciate being noticed. That's how you make friends of both genders. I have a booklet that offers even more suggestions. The title is "How to Be Popular," and it contains hints for polishing social skills for people of all ages. It can be ordered by sending your name and address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price. Remember, you don't have to be the prettiest or smartest girl in school. But you CAN be one of the nicest.

Show an interest in others. Be honest but always tactful. Cultivate your own interests so you will have something to talk about with others. If there are clubs at your school, join the ones that interest you. It's another way of making friends of both sexes.

Most young people go out in groups these days. So, if you and some friends plan to do something (and after you have been friendly and let the young man you like notice you), smile and ask if he'd like to come along. If he's shy, it's a way of making HIM feel less self-conscious, too. Good luck!

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



In this June 27, 2012 file photo, actor Liam Hemsworth, left, an honoree at the Australians in Film 8th Annual Breakthrough Awards, poses with his fiancée Miley Cyrus on the red carpet in Los Angeles.

AP

Oct. 8. Australian-born Hemsworth was one of the stars of "The Hunger Games." He will appear in the sequel, "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire," that will be in theaters on Nov. 22.

Their breakup was first reported by People magazine.

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Porn group lifts HIV-prompted filming moratorium

LOS ANGELES (AP)—An adult film trade group is lifting a two-week moratorium on porn shoots prompted by an HIV scare.

The Los Angeles Times says the Free Speech Coalition has announced that production can resume Friday. The group also

says it will require more frequent testing of actors for sexually transmitted diseases—every 14 days rather than every 28.

The coalition called an initial, weeklong moratorium last month after a 28-year-old test-positive for HIV. After that moratorium was lifted, a second

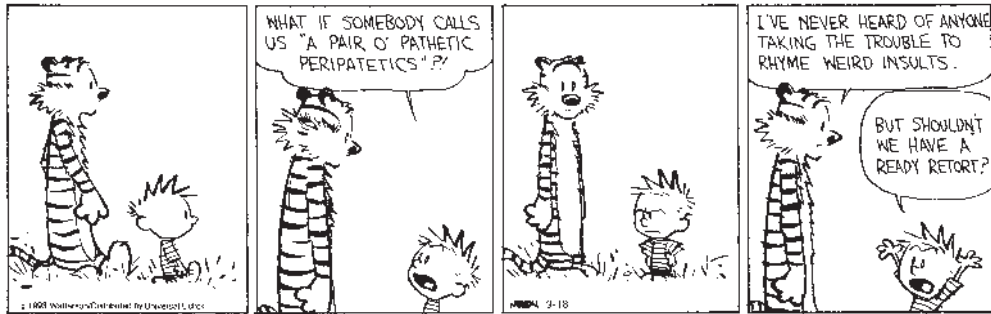
actor was found to have HIV, and another work stoppage was called Sept. 6.

A third performer also has tested positive. The coalition says all three appear to have contracted the virus in private life and all of their on-screen partners have tested negative.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 CEO's deg.

4 Pipe material, for short

7 Angel's instrument

8 Eucalyptus eater

10 PC user's annoyance

11 Diacritical mark

13 Common seasonings

16 Anger

17 Perch

18 "That feels good"

19 — up (admit)

20 Soup at a sushi bar

21 Lizard-like

23 Mall component

25 Blue hue

26 Smear

27 Eviscerate

28 Disdain

30 Shock and

33 Simple dressing

36 Antedating

37 Overact

38 Roots used in poi

39 Fuzz

40 Sleep stage

41 Pigpen

2 Old Spice alternative

3 Clothing

4 Splendid displays

5 Parking lot

6 Applaud

7 Frost

8 High praise

9 Live-in nanny

10 Sixth after

12 Rib

14 Inquisitive

15 Pi

19 JFK watch-dog org.

20 Unruly bunch

21 Small fire-cracker

22 Veal serving

23 Wrap for a rani

24 Holland and Lincoln

25 In olden days

26 Peaceful flock

28 Sleep soundly?

29 Software holder

30 Great pain

31 Electrical measure

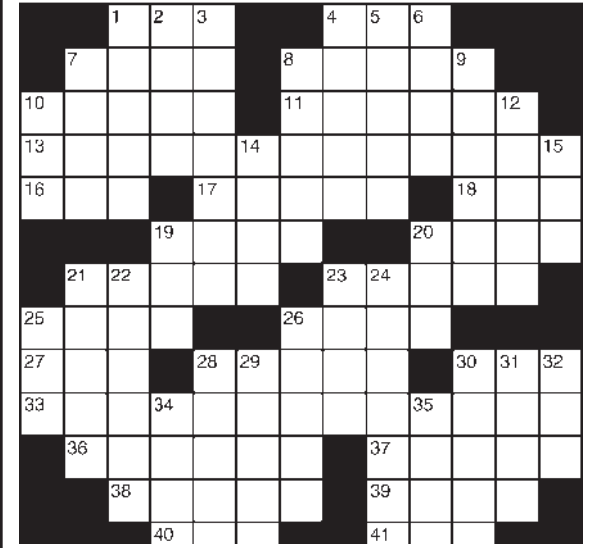
32 Prior to

34 Somewhere out there

35 Send forth

Solution time: 21 mins.

Yesterday's answer 9-18



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jimmie Johnson, 38; Constantine Maroulis, 38; Doug E. Fresh, 47; Kyle Chandler, 48.

Happy Birthday: Do your own thing. Present what you have to offer with confidence. Be willing to make compromises and be open to suggestions in order to seal a deal. Good fortune can be yours if you use your imagination. A new beginning will lift your spirits and give you greater incentive to expand your goals. Your numbers are 7, 12, 16, 24, 37, 41, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Discuss important issues with colleagues and make adjustments according to the information you receive. Stick to whatever decision you agree upon and postpone expanding until you are sure you can handle what's already expected of you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The knowledge and experience you gain through helping others will help you in your personal and business life. Last-minute plans to travel should be reconsidered. Unexpected difficulties are likely to lead to delays. Express your feelings.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Keep personal information a secret. Put a price on what you do and have to offer, or someone will try to get you to work for nothing. Speak up and make adjustments that will ensure that you get what you want.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): What you do for someone special will speak volumes about the way you feel. Love and romance are highlighted, and being romantic will

make a positive impact on your day. Short trips will enhance your life.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Find out as much information as possible so that you can maintain control. Expect someone to put demands on your time. Do your best to deal with chores so you can move on to more lucrative and interesting pastimes.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Broaden your vision by interacting with people from unusual backgrounds. What you discover will enable you to have a fresh outlook on an old idea, plan or project. Love is in the stars, and sharing romantic plans will improve your personal life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Share your thoughts, beliefs and the things you enjoy doing with someone who has similar interests. Fixing up your home may meet with opposition from someone who has alternative ideas or plans. Find a way to compromise before you begin.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Slow down and don't allow anyone to push you into something you don't care to do. Follow whatever path you feel most comfortable with, and you will satisfy your curiosity and discover a skill or talent you didn't realize you had.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): An emotional situation will cause you grief if you aren't honest about the way you feel. Don't commit to do something unless you plan to follow through. A loss of reputation will cost you when you want a favor or help.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't hesitate

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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to move forward, even if it is at someone else's expense. You mustn't feel guilty when it's time to collect what's owed to you. Plan to celebrate your good fortune with someone you love. Nurture important relationships.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Follow through with any promise you make, or you will be questioned. Find an interest and develop your skills. Being prepared will ensure that you can make positive changes to the way you earn a living. Focus on financial, legal and medical matters.

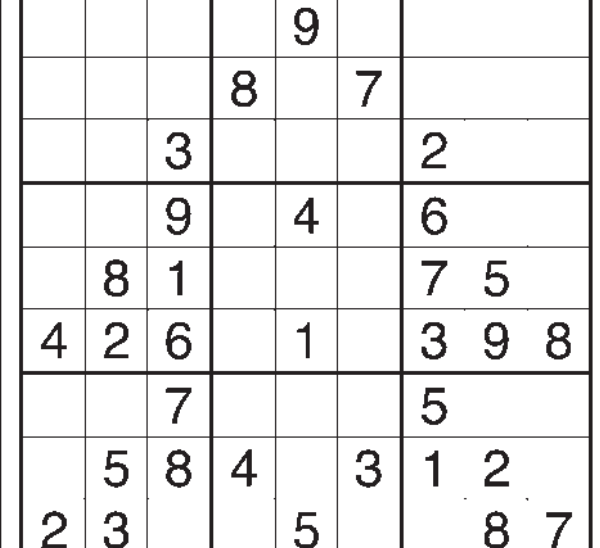
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Emotions coupled with creativity and passion will all lead to an interesting day with plenty of memories. Expand your friendships or romance someone special to you. Live in the moment and do your best to enjoy every experience you encounter.

Birthday Baby: You are inventive, a humanitarian and reformist. You can make a difference.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/18

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

7	2	3	6	1	5	8	9	4
9	4	1	8	2	7	5	6	3
6	5	8	9	3	4	2	7	1
8	1	7	3	5	2	6	4	9
3	9	5	4	8	6	1	2	7
2	6	4	7	9	1	3	8	5
4	3	2	1	7	8	9	5	6
5	7	9	2	6	3	4	1	8
1	8	6	5	4	9	7	3	2

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

MINIATURE GOLF Solution: 6 letters

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TCADAG OHTOHSNUF
EONRN ONPEHUENRO
RRDIDEAE CMMNU EU
CETTTRITL IETDPN
NUUUKCARTLOSSLT
OOBOSMROFRATEIA
CESYSSPFTORHL CI
SLRAEMLS WOLG CAN
SSULFOAEK DTRASE
LT OBGIYEONRETT F
UHTITL EFRIOESLB
GGNPMARLLTPNB UA
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Yesterday's Answer: Puzzle Society

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Zach Johnson rallies to win BMW Championship

BMW Championship



LAKE FOREST, ILL. (AP)—Zach Johnson is having a September to remember, and there's still one very big week to go.

In one tournament, he made a 25-foot birdie putt on his final hole to earn the last spot on the Presidents Cup team. In the next one, Johnson made a bunch of big putts in the final round of the rain-delayed BMW Championship for a 6-under 65 for a two-shot victory over Nick Watney.

Next up?

His win Monday at Conway Farms gave Johnson the No. 4 seed going into Tour Championship, giving him a clear shot at the FedEx Cup and its \$10 million prize.

"It's hard to grasp the last two weeks of golf," Johnson said. "It's not like you have to win every week to win that FedEx Cup. You've just got to win at the right times, or play well at the right times. And I like the momentum I have for next week."

Johnson's 10th career win came at the expense of Jim Furyk, who endured another dose of final-round disappointment. Furyk, who had a one-shot lead, has failed to win the last six times he had at least a share of the lead going into the last round. He holed a 12-foot birdie putt at No. 10 to build a two-shot lead, but played the last eight holes in 2-over and wound up with a 71 to finish alone in third.

Furyk had to settle for slice of history Friday as the sixth player in PGA Tour history with a 59. Only three players in that exclusive club went on to win—Al Geiberger is the only player to win when the 59 was not in the final round.

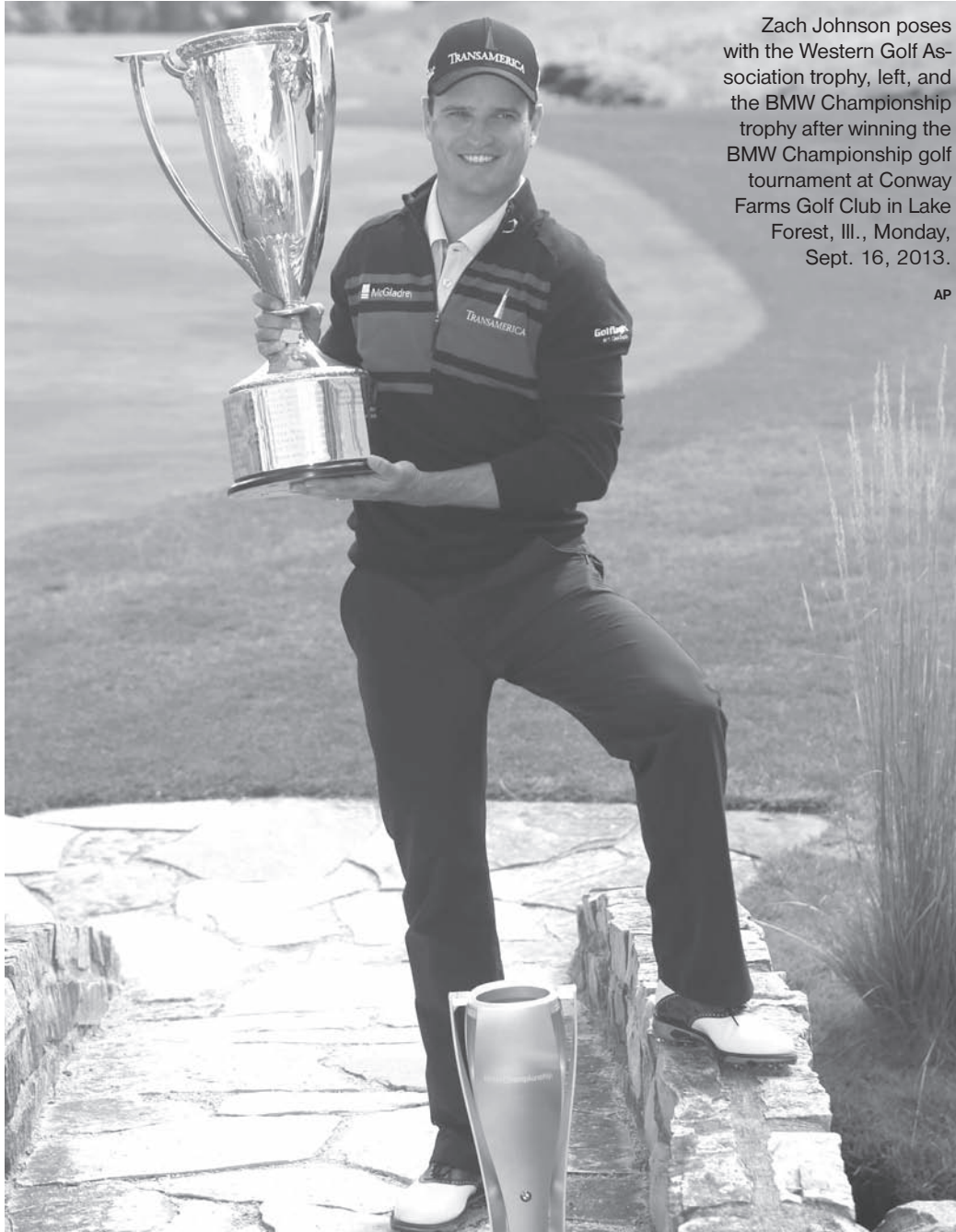
"I don't know if I used them all up on Friday and knocked them all in or what, but I just wasn't able to get the putts to go," Furyk said.

Johnson wasn't the only player who felt like a winner Monday.

Luke Donald, a member at Conway Farms, was No. 54 in the FedEx Cup and was on the verge of being left out of the top 30 players who advanced to the Tour Championship. He ran off four straight birdies on the back nine, atoned for a bogey on No. 16 with a birdie on the 17th, and then saved par from a bunker on the 18th hole for a 66 to tie for fourth. That moved him up to No. 29 to get him into East Lake.

Watney was at No. 34, and he went from playing his way into the top 30 to nearly winning the tournament. Watney closed with a 64 and was tied for the lead until Johnson made an 18-foot birdie putt out of the first cut on the 16th hole, and a 12-footer for birdie on the next hole.

"The guys ahead of me were ahead of me for a reason—they've been playing well all



Zach Johnson poses with the Western Golf Association trophy, left, and the BMW Championship trophy after winning the BMW Championship golf tournament at Conway Farms Golf Club in Lake Forest, Ill., Monday, Sept. 16, 2013.

AP

year," Watney said. "Luckily for me, I kind of pulled everything together."

The FedEx Cup points will be reset, meaning the top five only have to win the Tour Championship to capture the cup.

Tiger Woods will be the No. 1 seed, though he doesn't go there with much momentum. Woods started the final round in cool, breezy conditions just four shots behind and was never a factor after missing a short par putt on the opening hole. He closed with a 71 and tied for 11th, seven shots behind.

"It was not a very good putting week," Woods said, who was coming off a tie for 65th on the TPC Boston. "It's just one of those weeks where I just didn't have it."

Henrik Stenson, a winner in Boston and angry enough in Chicago that he snapped off the head of his driver during the final round, will be the No. 2 seed at East Lake, followed by Masters champion Adam Scott, Johnson and Matt Kuchar.

Steve Stricker, who played in the final group with Johnson, was one shot off the lead when he started the back nine bogey-double bogey. He closed with a 72, a round that cost him one of the top five seeds.

Furyk had company in his misery.

Matt Jones of Australia had a chance to get to the Tour Championship—which, in effect, would have put him in the

four majors next year—but his 8-foot birdie putt on the last hole hit the lip. That cost him a spot in the top 30.

Harris English was at No. 28 and might have caught the worst break of them all. In a driving rain Sunday, he lost the grip on his tee shot and pulled it into grass so thick the ball was never found. The horn to stop play sounded a minute later, and English went back out Monday morning to No. 8 to play his third shot on the par 5. He wound up with a double bogey, never found momentum and fell out of the top 30 by two shots.

Lee Westwood also fell out of the Tour Championship with a poor week.

Johnson put his postseason in jeopardy by skipping the opening FedEx Cup playoff event to attend his brother's wedding. He was at No. 27 before he arrived for the BMW Championship and started the week just wanting to make sure he was in Atlanta.

He did that and more, giving him 10 wins in his 10 years on the PGA Tour.

"I'm going to have to forget about this week, take Atlanta for Atlanta and just play," Johnson said. "East Lake is not Conway Farms. It's a beast. I'm just going to keep doing what I'm doing and just be thankful."

Johnson finished at 16-under 268 and earned \$1.44 million, pushing his career earnings just past \$30 million.

Bengals drop Steelers to 0-2 with 20-10 victory



CINCINNATI (AP)—Running back Giovani Bernard slipped through the line, caught Andy Dalton's short pass, then turned and saw something shocking.

One of the NFL's top defenses had given him a big opening.

The elusive rookie turned the catch into a 27-yard touchdown on Monday night, one of his two scores that made all the difference in the Cincinnati Bengals' 20-10 victory over the struggling Pittsburgh Steelers.

"I saw green grass," said Bernard, a second-round pick from North Carolina. "Once you see green grass, you've got to take it. You don't get many chances like that. When you do, you've got to take it."

He wasn't the only rookie putting their new imprint on an old rivalry. Top pick Tyler Eifert made a 61-yard catch that set up Bernard's 7-yard run for his first NFL touchdown. Together, they gave a preview of what the Bengals (1-1) could become with two new pass catchers in the offense.

"Gio's done a good job," Dalton said. "We drafted him to be versatile, move around the backfield and make big plays. And that's exactly what we've gotten out him."

The Bengals piled up 407 yards on one of the NFL's



Cincinnati Bengals running back Giovani Bernard (25) scores a touchdown on a 27-yard pass reception against the Pittsburgh Steelers in the second half of an NFL football game, Monday, Sept. 16, 2013, in Cincinnati.

AP

toughest defenses, holding the ball for more than 35 minutes.

The Steelers fell to 0-2 for the first time since 2002, done in by another game of self-destruction on offense. Pittsburgh had two turnovers in scoring range and couldn't hold the ball long enough to give their defense a breather, failing to get a first down on seven of their 12 possessions.

"There's not a lot of positives going on right now," said Ben Roethlisberger, who was 20 of 37 for 251 yards with one touchdown and a deflected interception. "We can't start doubting each other. Right now, there's a general feeling of being upset."

It was a chance for the Bengals to show they've supplanted the Steelers in the AFC North. They beat Pittsburgh 13-10 at Heinz Field last December to reach the playoffs, and now have moved ahead of them again with a rare Monday night win.

Cincinnati is 10-20 in Monday night games.

"This doesn't define anything until you look back at the end of the year," coach Marvin Lewis said.

The Bengals put the ball in the Dalton's hands in the first half, letting him pass away while they all but abandoned the run against one of the NFL's top

defenses. Dalton had an up-and-down game, finishing 25 of 45 for 280 yards.

Cincinnati's rookies provided the big plays.

Eifert got open between cornerback Ike Taylor and safety Ryan Clark for his 61-yard catch. Bernard finished the long drive with a 7-yard run, his first touchdown in the NFL, for the early lead.

The Steelers needed to get their offense moving after a horrid opener. They ran for only 32 yards and Roethlisberger was sacked five times during a 16-9 home loss to Tennessee. Worse, the Steelers lost Pro Bowl cen-

ter Maurkice Pouncey for the rest of the season with a torn knee ligament. Fernando Velasco, signed a week earlier, started in his place Monday.

They weren't significantly better in Cincinnati.

Roethlisberger got Pittsburgh's offense moving in spurts. He completed all five of his passes on a touchdown drive that pulled the Steelers into a 10-all tie at halftime, including completions of 19 and 43 yards to Emmanuel Sanders.

Shaun Suisham kicked a 44-yard field goal, and the Steelers had a chance to add to the lead in the first half. But another mistake—and they've had a lot of those already—provided the game's first turning point.

Pinned at their 3-yard line after a punt, the Steelers drove into scoring position. Roethlisberger completed a 34-yard pass to tight end David Paulson, who fumbled the ball as he was tackled. Adam "Pacman" Jones forced the fumble and recovered it at the Cincinnati 13-yard line.

Another of Roethlisberger's passes went off Jericho Cotchery's hands and was picked off at the Bengals 13-yard line in the fourth quarter, essentially sealing it.

The most intriguing question: Could Steeler-turned-Bengal James Harrison leave a mark on Pittsburgh's mess of an offense?

Nope. He didn't have a sack or a tackle.

Myers homers to lift Rays over Rangers, 6-2



ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.

(AP)—Wil Myers homered and had three RBIs, and Alex Cobb pitched eight solid innings as the Tampa Bay Rays took the lead for the first AL wild-card spot by beating the skidding Texas Rangers 6-2 on Monday night.

Tampa Bay and Texas started play a half-game ahead of Cleveland in the race for two wild-card berths.

Myers had a second-inning solo shot and hit a two-run double during a four-run fifth. Cobb (9-3) allowed two runs and six hits while striking out 10.

Matt Garza (9-6, 3-5 with Texas) gave up six runs and eight hits over 4 1-3 innings against his former team. He lost his third straight start for the Rangers, who have dropped seven in a row and are 2-12 in September.

The announced crowd was just 10,724. The Rays entered with the lowest home attendance in the majors, an average of 18,747.

Tigers 4, Mariners 2

In Detroit, Rick Porcello struck out 10 in six innings as Detroit beat Seattle to move a step closer to its third straight AL Central title.

Victor Martinez broke a 1-all tie in the sixth with a run-scoring single, and Omar Infante followed with his own RBI single.

Porcello (13-8) allowed a run and five hits with two walks, falling one strikeout short of his career high. Drew Smyly got five outs in relief and Jose Veras finished the eighth.

Joquin Benoit pitched a hitless ninth for his 21st save in 21 chances.

Joe Saunders (11-15) pitched well until the sixth, when he got two outs before a walk and three hits chased him from the game. Abraham Almonte homered for Seattle, which has lost seven of eight.

Royals 7, Indians 1

In Kansas City, Missouri, James Shields kept Cleveland off balance for six innings and Salvador Perez led a scrappy Kansas City offense as the Royals won the opener of a three-game set with significant playoff implications.

Shields struck out a season-high 10 for the Royals (79-71), who moved within 2½ games of the second AL wild-card berth. The Indians (81-69) remained a half-game back of Texas.

Shields (12-9) allowed only Lonnie Chisenhall's homer before turning the game over to his stingy bullpen. Wade Davis, Luke Hochevar and Tim Collins did the rest in a steady drizzle.

Scott Kazmir (8-9) gave up four runs in five-plus innings. He didn't get a whole lot of help from his offense, which racked up a season-high 17 strikeouts.

Angels 12, Athletics 1

In Oakland, California, C.J.



Tampa Bay Rays' Wil Myers flips his bat as he watches his fifth-inning two run double off Texas Rangers relief pitcher Jason Frasor during a baseball game Monday, Sept. 16, 2013, in St. Petersburg, Fla. Rays' James Loney and Evan Longoria scored on the hit.

AP

Wilson pitched seven innings of four-hit ball for his career-best 17th win as Los Angeles became the first team in nearly four months to beat Oakland starter Jarrod Parker.

Kole Calhoun had two of his three RBIs during a five-run fifth inning that chased Parker (11-7), who was 9-0 in 19 starts since a loss at Texas on May 22. It was the longest unbeaten streak by an A's starting pitcher since Hall of Famer Lefty Grove went 21 in a row in 1931.

Mike Trout and Mark Trumbo each hit a two-run homer in the eighth.

Wilson (17-6) extended his career-best winning streak to nine and is unbeaten in his last 13 starts.

Oakland remained 6½ games ahead of second-place Texas in the AL West.

White Sox 12, Twins 1

In Chicago, Erik Johnson pitched six scoreless innings to earn his first major league victory as Chicago scored seven runs in the first against Minnesota.

The White Sox, who had lost six straight and 15 of 17, broke out of their offensive funk against Liam Hendriks (1-3), who got only two outs. Chicago set a season high for runs and posted its biggest margin of victory this year.

Alexei Ramirez went 4 for 4 with a home run and three RBIs. He was a triple short of the cycle. Adam Dunn, Dayan Viciedo and Jordan Danks also homered.

During their skid, the White Sox totaled seven runs. They matched that in their highest-scoring first inning since scoring eight against Detroit on April 21, 2002.

Johnson (1-2), called up

from Triple-A Charlotte on Sept. 3, gave up four hits and struck out eight.

Reds 6, Astros 1

In Houston, Johnny Cueto threw five shutout innings in his return from the disabled list and Zack Cozart homered and drove in four runs to lead Cincinnati over Houston.

Pitching for the first time since straining the muscle below his right shoulder on June 28, Cueto (5-2) allowed five hits and struck out five with one walk.

Cincinnati moved five games ahead of Washington for the second NL wild card.

Cozart hit a two-run homer in the second and a two-run single in the fourth.

Erik Bedard (4-11) allowed four hits and four runs in four innings in his return from a stint in the bullpen.

Padres 2, Pirates 0

In Pittsburgh, Andrew Cashner carried a perfect game into the seventh inning and faced the minimum 27 batters in a one-hitter that sent San Diego Padres past the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Cashner (10-8) retired his first 18 batters before Jose Tabata grounded a clean single into right field leading off the seventh. Tabata was erased when Andrew McCutchen grounded into an inning-ending double play, and the right-hander cruised the rest of the way for his first complete game in 31 career starts.

Cashner struck out seven and did not walk a batter.

The Pirates lost for the second time in eight games but remained tied for first place in the NL Central with the St. Louis Cardinals, who lost at Colorado.

Phillies 12, Marlins 2

In Philadelphia, Cliff Lee had three hits, knocked in a career-high four runs and struck out a season-high 14 to lead the Phillies to a win over the Marlins.

Lee (14-6) stroked a two-run, bases-loaded single to cap off a six-run third inning and also hit his first career triple in the fifth. Chase Utley, who also drove in four runs, hit a long three-run homer in the third.

On the mound, Lee allowed two runs while scattering eight hits and walking none, at one point retiring 11 straight en route to winning his fourth consecutive decision. He is 4-0 with a 2.05 ERA in his last six starts and 5-1 with a 2.29 lifetime ERA against Miami.

Philadelphia has won six in a row over Miami.

In his first major-league start, Sam Dyson (0-1) allowed seven runs.

Rockies 6, Cardinals 2

In Denver, Todd Helton started his final homestand with a key single in the eighth inning as the Rockies beat the Cardinals.

Charlie Blackmon had three hits and drove in three runs for the Rockies, who prevented the Cardinals from taking over sole possession of first place in the NL Central. They remained tied with the Pittsburgh Pirates, who lost 2-0 to San Diego.

Matt Carpenter and Matt Adams had two hits each for the Cardinals.

Helton was playing in front of Colorado fans for the first time since he announced his plans to retire at the end of the season, his 17th. He received a standing ovation when he came to the plate in the first, and Cardinals starter Lance

Lynn stood behind the mound and waited as the crowd saluted Helton.

Brewers 6, Cubs 1

In Milwaukee, Caleb Gindl had three hits, including a two-run home run, as Wily Peralta pitched six strong innings to lead the Brewers to a win over the Cubs.

The Brewers' fourth win in five games moved them 3½ games above Chicago at the bottom of the NL Central.

Peralta (10-15) gave up an unearned run on five hits. He struck out seven while walking two.

Edwin Jackson (8-16) lasted only four innings for the Cubs, giving up two runs on two hits and three walks. Jackson has the most losses of any pitcher in the NL. Peralta is second with 15.

Diamondbacks 2, Dodgers 1

In Phoenix, Paul Goldschmidt hit a two-run home run in the first inning and Trevor Cahill and three relievers made it stand up in Arizona's win over Los Angeles.

Goldschmidt raised his NL-leading RBI total to 116 with his 33rd home run off Dodgers starter Ryu Hyun-jin (13-7). Goldschmidt has homered in each of his last two games after an 83 at-bat drought.

With Los Angeles' fourth loss in a row and the Diamondbacks third straight win, the Dodgers' magic number to clinch the NL West remains four.

Ryu (13-7) went the distance for his second complete game, allowing only the two runs on two hits in eight innings. He walked one, struck out four and retired 23 of the final 24 batters he faced.

Cahill (7-10) won for the fourth straight decision, holding Los Angeles to one run on two hits over 5 2-3 innings.

Braves-Nationals game postponed

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Washington Nationals postponed Monday night's game against the Atlanta Braves following shootings at the nearby Navy Yard.

The game was rescheduled as part of a day-night doubleheader on Tuesday.

"It's a very emotional day. An extremely horrific act happened very near to the ballpark," Nationals general manager Mike Rizzo said. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the victims over there and all the people affected by this. We felt it was inappropriate to play a major league baseball game with such tragedy right down the street."

Located just blocks from the Navy Yard, one of the stadium's parking lots was used for families of the Navy Yard employees to meet following the evacuation of the facility.

"Major League Baseball mourns those who have been lost to this senseless tragedy," Commissioner Bud Selig said. "Major League Baseball's security department will continue to track this matter in consultation with the Nationals and under the guidance of the local authorities."

The postponement was announced shortly after 3 p.m.,

about four hours before scheduled start.

"We have to be in contact with the federal authorities, the state and D.C. authorities to have a coordinated effort, and then whenever you cancel a game, MLB is involved and we have to go through the correct procedures for that," Rizzo said.

With some streets north of the stadium closed, there was heavy traffic on South Capitol Street, parallel to the third-base. Potomac Street, parallel to first-base line, was blocked by police. Police activity was visible around the stadium, and sirens could be heard throughout the afternoon.

Players from both teams were in the clubhouses at the time of the postponement along with stadium employees.

The doubleheader will open a three-game series. The Braves have a 10-game lead over second-place Washington in the NL East, and the Nationals began Monday 4 1/2 games behind Cincinnati for the final NL wild-card berth.

Washington starter Dan Haren and Atlanta's Mike Minor were pushed back to Tuesday afternoon, and the Nationals' Tanner Roark opposes Freddy Garcia in the night game.

Flow Tour competition on Sept. 27-28 at PIC

It's the wave event you've been waiting for! The Flow Tour competition is coming to Saipan on Sept. 27 at 5pm and Sept. 28 starting at 10am.

These tours are held in Asia, Europe, and the USA and this month the Pacific Islands Club Saipan will host the 7th Annual Flowboarding Competition featuring competitors from Saipan, Japan, and Korea.

Delta Air Lines is pleased to support the upcoming Asia Flow Series hosted by Pacific Islands Club Saipan. We invite the entire community to come down to PIC to participate in this exciting event. We wish the tournament organizers a successful event," said Delta Air Lines Inside Sales representative Chris A. Concepcion.

Flow riders will be judged on trick and run execution, overall impression and difficulty throughout the two-day event.

The panel of judges will include flowboarding champion Alfian Affandi, a familiar name in the pro scene. Affandi, who is from Singapore, has won top place in several Flow Championships in Asia and the USA. Local 2012 champion, Dan Westfall, and top finisher, Ray Babauta will return to compete for a chance to win cash prizes at the PIC Saipan.

PIC is hosting a total of nine divisions this year. The Master's Division (for flowriders 35 and older) is the latest addition. The winners of the Pro Men's and Pro Women's Bodyboard divisions along with the Pro Mixed Flowboard winners will be granted a slot into the Asia Series finals to be held in Singa-



Delta Air Lines Inside Sales representative Chris A. Concepcion hands the carrier's donation to Pacific Islands Club Saipan's Glenn Policare. PIC will host the 7th Annual Flowboarding Competition on Sept. 27.

pore Oct. 5.

PM Practice sessions start this week (Sept. 17-18-19) and will continue next week as well (Sept. 24-25-26). The 6pm to

8pm sessions are for paid competitors only and is a great venue for flowriders to compare notes.

Registration forms are still available and deadline is on

Sept. 27. Entry forms can be obtained by calling Glenn Policare at the PIC Saipan, 237-5148 or email at glenn.policare@pic-saipan.com. (PR)

UFO caging pushed back to Sept. 29

With teams still on the fence whether or not to join the competition, the United Filipino Organization has postponed the opening of its 2013 UFO Basketball League to Sept. 29.

Coordinator Abner Venus, of the Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, said the one-week postponement would give interested teams more time to make up their minds.

He said so far four teams have signed up to play in the masters and eight in the open division. Meanwhile, not much teams have shown interest in the 20-and-under and 15-and-

under age groups. Venus said this is probably because the Saipan Rotary Youth Basketball League is still ongoing.

The four teams that will see action in the 40-and-over division is led by defending champion Armatech, Laguna, MAFEA, and Masters Degree.

Mobil, Proa, KB Market, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Kanoa Resort, Toka Degree, and Hoo-paholics, meanwhile, make up the open division. Venus said aside from the eight, three more teams are looking to join the age group.

Venus said the league would have its final organizational meeting tomorrow beginning 6pm at the conference room of

the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Despite the postponement, the 2013 United Filipino Organization Basketball League will still kick off at the TSL Sports Complex's Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Before the actual games start, the opening ceremony will promptly begin at 1pm on that day. Playing dates for the league will be Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday, if necessary. First game is at 6:30pm and second game is at 8pm.

For more information on the UFO caging, call league coordinator Bok Enano at 287-9756, league commissioner Ed Manalili at 483-4337, or Venus at 785-6122. (Saipan Tribune)

KFC

From Page 28

fense. However, KFC/Taco Bell countered Deocares' string of points with a balance scoring to keep the double-digit advantage at halftime, 40-22.

After finding some hope in

the second frame, the Rebelholics' finals chances went sour, as it nailed only 7 points in the third, allowing KFC/Taco Bell to pull further ahead, 57-29. With a big lead, KFC/Taco Bell hung loose in the fourth, helping the Rebelholics post its biggest output in a quarter (16), but the former still went home with a

huge winning margin.

Morales paced KFC/Taco Bell with his 18 points, while Jetto Cruz and Michael Epinosa chipped in 10 markers apiece. Four other KFC/Taco Bell contributed at least 4 points each. Deocares was the lone double-figure scorer for the Rebelholics with his 14.

KFC/Taco Bell 74 – Morales 18, Je. Cruz 10, Espinosa 10, Fidelino 9, Amog 8, Francisco7, Alipio 4, Borromeo 2.

Rebelholics 45 – Deocares 14, Rios 8, Zitzke 6, Retan 4, Sagun 4, Subang 2, Cudia 1.

Scoring by quarters: 22-9, 40-22, 57-29, 74-45.

DODGERS

From Page 28

came off the Yankees' errors, while the other was courtesy of Jhace Palacios' RBI single for the Dodgers' 6-1 advantage.

The Dodgers made it a 10-1 count at the bottom of the fifth, as they held the Yankees scoreless for the second straight inning and four in the first five. The Dodgers got one run off a Yankees miscue, two from wild

pitches, and one from Thai Deleon Guerrero's single.

The Yankees, who got their first run in the third inning from a Dodgers error at second base, finally hit the board anew, gaining two runs off the Dodgers' boobos and an RBI double from Tenorio, to stay in the game, 4-10.

However, the Dodgers quickly got the three runs back at the bottom of the sixth, as this time they scored two runs off passed balls and one run off a Yankees

error. The Yankees shuffled four pitchers from the fourth to sixth inning and with none of them getting into their rhythm, the Dodgers managed to get the needed runs to end their skid.

The Dodgers went on to secure the victory, as after closer Brian Camacho gave up three runs on passed ball with one out and a runner on first base, he caught a fly ball from Brandon Dela Cruz and then struck out Greg Iskawa.

Incidentally, the Dodgers'

first victory of the season also came at the expense of the Yankees, as the former eked out 3-1 triumph in their Aug. 24 match.

Meanwhile, the league is back on a wait-and-see mode this week due to the bad weather. Last Monday, it rained hard an hour before the Padres and Giants took the diamond, which was left soggy and unplayable by the repeated heavy showers. Last week, all games were cancelled and matches in the second round only resumed last Saturday.

Hata added the Japanese students met with Saipan students yesterday and exchanged ideas in a normal classroom setting. Last year, Hata brought different students on Saipan, too, and they visited San Antonio, Garapan, and Koblerville elementary schools.

Meanwhile, Yamanaka and Hata said they will be bringing in men's and women's soccer teams on Saipan in February next year for a series of friendly games.

JAPANESE

From Page 28

the Level 4 coach through Japan Football Association held a two-week goalie clinic for the CNMI U15 National Team that competed in the 2011 East Asian Football Federation U15 Youth Tournament in Taipei and gave the Commonwealth its historic first win (2-1 versus Macau).

Then early this year, Yamanaka returned to Saipan with his family and briefly conducted another clinic for U12 players.

"It is an honor to share what I know to CNMI players. I hope we will not only have clinics and scrimmages, but also more cultural exchange between students from Japan and Saipan. We wish to strengthen our relationship with the CNMI and come here as often as we

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	92	59	.609	—
Tampa Bay	82	67	.550	9
Baltimore	79	70	.530	12
New York	79	71	.527	12½
Toronto	68	81	.456	23

Central Division

Detroit	87	63	.580	—
Cleveland	81	69	.540	6
Kansas City	79	71	.527	8
Minnesota	64	85	.430	22½
Chicago	59	91	.393	28

West Division

Oakland	88	62	.587	—
Texas	81	68	.544	6½
Los Angeles	73	77	.487	15
Seattle	66	84	.440	22
Houston	51	99	.340	37

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	89	60	.597	—
Washington	79	70	.530	10
Philadelphia	70	80	.467	19½
New York	67	82	.450	22
Miami	55	95	.367	34½

Central Division

Pittsburgh	87	63	.580	—
St. Louis	87	63	.580	—
Cincinnati	85	66	.563	2½
Milwaukee	66	83	.443	20½
Chicago	63	87	.420	24

West Division

Los Angeles	86	64	.573	—
Arizona	76	73	.510	9½
San Diego	69	80	.463	16½
San Francisco	69	81	.460	17
Colorado	69	82	.457	17½

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	2	0	0	1.000	36	31
Miami	2	0	0	1.000	47	30
N.Y. Jets	1	1	0	.500	28	30
Buffalo	1	1	0	.500	45	46

South

Houston	2	0	0	1.000	61	52
Indianapolis	1	1	0	.500	41	41
Tennessee	1	1	0	.500	40	39
Jacksonville	0	2	0	.000	11	47

North

Baltimore	1	1	0	.500	41	55
Cincinnati	1	1	0	.500	41	34
Pittsburgh	0	2	0	.000	19	36
Cleveland	0	2	0	.000	16	37

West

Kansas City	2	0	0	1.000	45	18
Denver	2	0	0	1.000	90	50
Oakland	1	1	0	.500	36	30
San Diego	1	1	0	.500	61	61

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

Dallas	1	1	0	.500	52	48
Philadelphia	1	1	0	.500	63	60
N.Y. Giants	0	2	0	.000	54	77
Washington	0	2	0	.000	47	71

South

New Orleans	2	0	0	1.000	39	31
Atlanta	1	1	0	.500	48	47
Carolina	0	2	0	.000	30	36
Tampa Bay	0	2	0	.000	31	34

North

Chicago	2	0	0	1.000	55	51
Detroit	1	1	0	.500	55	49
Green Bay	1	1	0	.500	66	54
Minnesota	0	2	0	.000	54	65

West

Seattle	2	0	0	1.000	41	10
St. Louis	1	1	0	.500	51	55
San Francisco	1	1	0	.500	37	57
Arizona	1	1	0	.500	49	48

BMW CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

LAKE FOREST, Illinois (AP) — Scores Monday at the BMW Championship, a US PGA Tour FedEx Cup event at the 7,149-yard, par-71 Conway Farms Golf Club:

FINAL (FedExCup points in parentheses)

Zach Johnson (2,500), \$1,440,000	64-70-69-65-268
Nick Watney (1,500), \$864,000	67-69-70-64-270
Jim Furyk (1,000), \$544,000	72-59-69-71-271
Jason Day (563), \$315,000	71-66-70-66-273
Luke Donald (563), \$315,000	70-70-67-66-273
Hunter Mahan (563), \$315,000	68-73-65-67-273
Steve Stricker (563), \$315,000	66-71-64-72-273

Matt Jones (400), \$232,000
69-71-67-67-274
Charl Schwartzel (400), \$232,000
66-70-69-69-274
Brandt Snedeker (400), \$232,000
63-68-71-72-274
Ryan Moore (315), \$176,000
67-69-69-70-275
Rory Sabbatini (315), \$176,000
69-71-66-69-275
Jimmy Walker (315), \$176,000
72-65-70-68-275
Tiger Woods (315), \$176,000
66-72-66-71-275
Roberto Castro (280), \$144,000
68-69-71-68-276
Keegan Bradley (273), \$132,000
74-67-70-66-277
Jordan Spieth (273), \$132,000
71-65-73-68-277
Brendon de Jonge (255), \$104,320
71-68-70-70-279
Sergio Garcia (255), \$104,320
70-68-69-72-279
Billy Horschel (255), \$104,320
73-69-71-66-279
John Merrick (255), \$104,320
67-73-69-70-279
Gary Woodland (255), \$104,320
68-72-71-68-279
David Lynn (240), \$83,200
73-71-68-68-280
Chris Kirk (228), \$68,200
75-70-70-66-281
Matt Kuchar (228), \$68,200
74-73-61-73-281
Webb Simpson (228), \$68,200
72-69-69-71-281
Bubba Watson (228), \$68,200
71-71-69-70-281
Graham DeLaet (205), \$54,400
70-73-72-67-282
Bill Haas (205), \$54,400
72-71-72-67-282
David Hearn (205), \$54,400
72-68-71-71-282
Adam Scott (205), \$54,400
67-73-75-67-282
Daniel Summerhays (205), \$54,400
72-70-68-72-282
Brian Davis (178), \$42,267
72-67-74-70-283
Phil Mickelson (178), \$42,267
70-74-68-71-283
Kevin Stadler (178), \$42,267
69-74-70-70-283
Kevin Streelman (178), \$42,267
66-70-74-73-283
Justin Rose (178), \$42,267
71-71-69-72-283
Henrik Stenson (178), \$42,267
72-70-67-74-283
Matt Every (150), \$32,800
79-66-69-70-284
Rickie Fowler (150), \$32,800
77-68-68-71-284
Russell Henley (150), \$32,800
74-70-70-70-284
Charles Howell III (150), \$32,800
71-71-71-71-284
Marc Leishman (150), \$32,800
73-71-71-69-284
Angel Cabrera (125), \$24,864
71-72-73-69-285
Jason Kokrak (125), \$24,864
70-73-71-71-285
Bryce Molder (125), \$24,864
73-72-72-68-285
Ian Poulter (125), \$24,864
73-73-69-70-285
Nicholas Thompson (125), \$24,864
69-75-65-76-285
John Huh (110), \$20,800
72-71-72-71-286
Harris English (105), \$20,160
70-74-71-72-287
Jonas Blixt (95), \$19,253
72-73-73-70-288
Ernie Els (95), \$19,253
71-71-74-72-288
Chris Stroud (95), \$19,253
70-73-72-73-288
Sang-Moon Bae (80), \$18,400
70-71-75-73-289
Jason Dufner (80), \$18,400
71-73-72-73-289
Boo Weekley (80), \$18,400
72-76-71-70-289
Graeme McDowell (68), \$18,000
70-73-72-75-290
D.A. Points (68), \$18,000
71-72-75-72-290
Rory McIlroy (58), \$17,680
78-77-68-68-291
Patrick Reed (58), \$17,680
72-78-70-71-291
Brendan Steele (50), \$17,440
75-68-72-77-292
Kevin Chappell (40), \$17,120
77-72-73-71-293
Dustin Johnson (40), \$17,120
4-75-72-72-293
Michael Thompson (40), \$17,120
70-74-76-73-293
Ken Duke (28), \$16,720
73-77-68-76-294
Brian Gay (28), \$16,720
70-74-74-76-294
Lee Westwood (20), \$16,480
80-73-69-74-296
Charley Hoffman (15), \$16,320
78-76-70-73-297
Scott Piercy (8), \$16,080
81-73-76-72-302
Scott Stallings (8), \$16,080
75-71-73-83-302

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MARPAC 40th Anniversary Golf Tournament

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Top scorers Nick Sablan, second left, and Rick Kautz, third left, pose with their prizes, MARPAC resident manager Guy Pudney, left, and a Budweiser model, right during the award ceremony for last Saturday's event at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan's Magellan.



Sixth placer Rene Batallones (with Manny Alvarez, not in the photo) shows his in-kind prize.



Diego Benavente and Ray Quintanilla are all smiles after making it to the winners circle.



Adam Hardwicke and Luther Taylor round out the Top 10 placers.



From left, fifth placers Harry Nakamura and Joe Limes, pose for a photo after receiving their prize.



Geon Lee and Sean Lee show their seventh place prizes.



MARPAC president Frank Shimizu address the crowd.



MARPAC resident manager Guy Pudney delivers a brief message at the awards ceremony.



Won Piao Lee, left, is congratulated by MARPAC resident manager Guy Pudney for winning the closest to the Goose contest.

Zach Johnson
rallies to
win BMW
Championship

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Myers homers
to lift Rays
over Rangers,
6-2

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28 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2013

KFC sets up title duel with DYS

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

KFC/Taco Bell secured the second and last finals berth in the U15 division of the 22nd Annual Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League, following a 74-45 win over the Rebelholics last Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



KFC/Taco Bell will battle DYS for all the marbles this Friday, as the latter had earlier notched a finals ticket after also dominating the Ol' Aces, 50-30, in the first semis match last Monday.

The second semis duel was another one-sided affair with top-seeded KFC/Taco Bell taking charge right from the start of the match en route to the 29-point winning margin.

C.J. Morales kicked off the match with a triple and he went on to score 6 more points to power KFC/Taco Bell to a promising 22-9 lead. Five other KFC/Taco Bell players also made it to the scoreboard in the first eight minutes of play, while the Rebelholics' lack of offensive option was evident in the opening canto, as only three of its players hit field goals.

Melvin Deocares was one of the scorers for the Rebelholics, drilling the team's first basket, a triple. He then dropped 7 straight points in the second period to somehow spark their lackluster of-

See KFC on Page 26

Dodgers back on track, beat Yankees



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Dodgers batter waits for the pitch during their game against the Yankees in the first round of the 2nd Annual DYS/Triple A Youth Baseball League at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The Dodgers broke out of slump after outclassing the Yankees, 13-7, in the second game in the 2nd Annual DYS/Triple A Youth Baseball League last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Dodgers, who dropped their last three games, capital-

ized on the Yankees' errors and struggles on the mound in the last three innings to return to the win column and improve to a 2-5 record. The Yankees also absorbed their fifth loss, but had one more victory than the Dodgers.

Holding a precarious 2-1 lead after three and a half innings, the Dodgers gained some cushion at the bottom of the fourth, scoring four runs. Three of those runs

See DODGERS on Page 26

KFC/Taco Bell's Michael Espinosa goes up for a putback against the Rebelholics' Isaiah Retan during their semis game in the U15 division of the Rotary caging last Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Japanese students to play in soccer scrimmage

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Japanese students are set to join a scrimmage against local players today at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

The scrimmage is part of the visitors' cultural exchange and leadership program on Saipan, according to Ehime University Leaders School chief instructor Keiji Hata, through interpreter Yoko Tsumagari, an assistant professor at the same university, in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

From left, Yoko Tsumagari, Keiji Hata, and Akira Yamanaka of Ehime University pose for a photo after an interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Hata brought to Saipan 56 students (in the 18 to 20 age group) from different universities in Japan and 12 professors and several of them will be testing their soccer skills against local talents in a scrimmage set for 7:30pm.

"We have about 15 students on the group who also play soccer. It will be a great experience for them to play and interact with local players," Hata said.

Before the scrimmage, Akira Yamanaka, who is also from Ehime University, will conduct a clinic at 6pm. It is Yamanaka's third visit to Saipan. In 2011,

See JAPANESE on Page 26